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24 JUNE 1987

LATIN AMERICA

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/9986

INTER-AMERICAN

COLOMBIA TO IMPORT ELECTRICITY FROM VENEZUELA, ECUADOR

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 1 May 87 p 4-C

[Article by Jose Suarez, editor]

[Text] Colombia will import electricity from Venezuela and Ecuador to guarantee the domestic supply during maintenance of the Chivor Hydroelectric Plant. It will be out of operation for at least a month.

Gabriel Turbay Marulanda, outgoing deputy minister of mines, made this announcement. However, he said that the amount of energy that will have to be purchased from the neighboring countries and its cost have not been determined. However, it is estimated that 200,000 to 300,000 kilowatts will be needed.

This situation will begin probably this month. It occurs paradoxically in a country that has 22 percent more supply of electricity than demand.

Turbay Marulanda said that officially there is only a 15 percent surplus. When the projects planned for these months go into operation, it will increase to 25 percent. Chivor represents about 20 percent of current installed capacity--that is, 1 million kilowatts. When it goes out of operation, there will be a shortage that will have to be met with purchases from Venezuela and Ecuador.

According to economist Eduardo Sarmiento, the 22 percent surplus represents an investment cost for Colombia of \$1.8 billion and an annual expense of \$200 million.

Turbay, Sarmiento, and expert Jorge Eduardo Cock L. talked about the electrical sector during a forum at the Universidad de los Andes.

The deputy minister and new president of the FEN made an evaluation of what the Ministry of Mines has done in the last 8 months. He pointed out the adjustment plan for the electrical sector, redistribution of the ownership of the Guavio hydroelectric project, the new rate policy, and the turnover of the management of some powerplants to the workers.

He announced that the ministry is advancing studies on a market redistribution policy and the elimination of intermediaries which will provide better results for the enterprises in the sector. He said the bill in Congress that creates the National Energy Commission is very important. The most important decisions on the national energy policy will be made in that commission.

Cock Londono stated that the policy of regional self-sufficiency is incorrect. It creates financial imbalances in the enterprises and makes energy more expensive. He cited various pressures as part of the cause of the current situation in the electrical sector.

The three experts agreed that there had been mistakes in planning for the sector and that excessive investments in it had hurt other sectors that have greater socioeconomic impact.

7717

CSO: 3348/310

GUYANA TRADE MINISTER DISCUSSES VENTURES WITH TRINIDAD

Port-of-Spain SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 3 May 87 pp 1, 6

[Text]

GUYANA says it detects a willingness by Trinidad and Tobago to expand trade between the two countries and embark on joint ventures, but complains of a hold-up in rice sales to Port of Spain.

Trade Minister Winston Murray told the Caribbean News Agency (CANA) in Fort-de-France, Martinique, yesterday that the manufacturing sector in particular was hard hit, because of a shortage of inputs normally purchased from Port of Spain in exchange for rice.

He said Trinidad-made bottles and crown corks were two of the products involved.

Murray, who was in Martinique for an European/Caribbean Economic Consultation, said the delay in resuming rice shipments to Port of Spain was caused by price negotiations.

"Guyana stands ready to supply, but we are not going to cut our nose to

spoil our face," the Trade Minister added.

Murray said the recent bilateral talks on trade and economic cooperation had aimed at servicing Georgetown's debt to Port of Spain, estimated at \$488 million (TT), as well as keeping trade "current."

He said a follow-up mission from

Guyana visited Port of Spain recently to continue discussions, including possible joint ventures in the forestry sector, agro-industry and the textiles industry. These sectors were identified during talks between a Guyanese team led by deputy Prime Minister for Planning and Development, Haslyn Parris, and Trinidadian officials at the end of March.

Trinidad and Tobago's Industry Minister, Ken Gordon, said recently that a Trinidadian mission still planned to visit Georgetown next month, to finalise arrangements for the implementation of joint ventures. Murray said he was encouraged about prospects for intra-regional trade because of "a new mood of optimism" in the region.

Guyana, he said, has recently stepped up its imports of Caricom goods, buying toilet soap from Dominica and edible oil from St Vincent and the Grenadines. Intra-regional trade declined by 13 per cent for the first 11 months of last year compared to an overall 3.5 per cent fall off in 1985.

/13046

CSO: 3298/211

BRIEFS

INCREASE IN BOLIVIAN EXPORTS TO BRAZIL--Santa Cruz--During the last 3 years we have imported from Brazil products with a total value of \$486,575,364. During the same period, our exports to Brazil were only \$49,988,871, reported engineer Mariano Pacheco, president of the Brazil-Bolivia Chamber of Commerce of Sao Paulo, Brazil. Mr Pacheco observed that Bolivian exports to Brazil have been steadily rising. In 1986 they were \$20,179,650; in 1985, they were \$13,239,851; and in 1984, \$16,569,370. During this period, Bolivian imports from Brazil were the following: in 1984, \$140,572,904; in 1985, \$170,883,586; and in 1986, \$175,113,847. The most significant categories of our imports from Brazil during 1986 were: farm tractors, footwear with leather soles, rubber-soled footwear with textile uppers, cotton fabrics, heavy household equipment (stoves, refrigerators, etc.), construction tools, all types of batteries, machinery in general, paper for printing, tires, matches, cigarettes, etc., reported Mr Pacheco. The most significant of Bolivian exports to Brazil were: heavy equipment, slaughtered cattle, cotton thread, natural rubber, leather and hides in general, minerals, gas, chestnuts, sawed woods, gypsum, dairy cream, and other items, reported Mr Pacheco. He noted that these figures do not include the contraband that crosses the border (Puerto Suarez). In addition, the figures on Bolivian imports reflect only the data provided by merchants, and these figures are generally false. However, this abnormality is now being gradually corrected through the control being exercised by the SGS. In discussing the use of the port of Santos for our imports and exports, movements there during 1986 were 24,392 tons exported and 1,551 tons imported. That is, a total of 25,943 tons were shipped through the port of Santos in Brazil on behalf of Bolivia. This year, concluded engineer Pacheco, we expect that Bolivia will export more to Brazil, given the existing trade opportunities and the economic recovery now taking place in Bolivia. [Text]
[La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 29 Mar 87 p 11] 7679

CSO: 3348/268

ANGUILLA

BRIEFS

REJECTION OF INDEPENDENCE--Road Town, Tortola, Tuesday (CANA)--Anguilla will reject any pressure from Britain to force it into independence, the island's Minister of Finance and Education, Osborne Flemming, has said here. Flemming was responding to reports out of London which say the British Government is giving more and more consideration to what it should do about the future of its dependencies in the Caribbean. Flemming said although Anguilla was unaware of the reports "we would not dismiss their authenticity." [Text] [Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 22 Apr 87 p 15] /9317

CSO: 3298/206

BRIEFS

RELATIONS WITH SEOUL--In South Korea, Mr. Esquivel met with Korean Prime Minister Lho Shin Yong as well as with the President of the Republic, Mr. Chun Do Whan. The Korean President presented Prime Minister Esquivel with a gift of four hundred thousand Belize Dollars (Bz \$400,000) worth of equipment for the government and people of Belize. The Belize and Korean Foreign Ministers signed a joint communique establishing diplomatic relations between the two countries and also signed an agreement of technical and economic cooperation. A spokesman for the Belize Government has described Prime Minister Esquivel's tour as "historic and successful." The spokesman pointed out that the establishment of new diplomatic and commercial ties with nations of the Far East will greatly strengthen Belize's standing in the international community. Accompanying the Prime Minister were his wife, Mrs. Kathy Esquivel, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Economic Development, Mr. Dean Barrow, the Ambassador to the United Nations, Mr. Kenneth Tillett and Mrs. Yvonne Hyde, Director of the Office of Economic Development. [Excerpt] [Belize City THE BEACON in English 25 Apr 87 pp 1, 11] /13046

CITRUS CROP--Citrus growers in the Stann Creek and Cayo districts of Belize are having bumper orange and grapefruit harvests, industry officials have said. An estimated 850,000 80-pound boxes of grapefruits will be reaped by the time the 1986-87 crop ends, the officials reported. This is 200,000 boxes more than the previous year's grapefruit harvest and nearly double the 450,000 harvested during the 1984-85 season. [Text] [Belize City AMANDALA in English 24 Apr 87 p 7] /13046

CSO: 3298/212

SPLIT IN UBP RANKS OVER QUESTION OF INDEPENDENCE

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 28 Apr 87 p 1

[Text]

Bermudians must know all the negatives Independence could create before they can make a sensible decision on the issue, United Bermuda Party MP Mr. C.V. (Jim) Woolridge told a forum on Independence last night.

"Let's not rush down that slippery dark tunnel of no return," he told about 100 people at a Bermuda Industrial Union-organised meeting that also featured Progressive Labour Party Leader Mr. Frederick Wade and National Liberal Party Leader Mr. Gilbert Darrell.

Mr. Woolridge argued in favour of the status quo, saying the Island was already well situated with its "tremendous" United Kingdom link that facilitated world travel and assumed its defence costs.

Independence, on the other hand, would increase the local tax burden and possibly undermine the Island's attraction to its economic mainstays: foreign investors and tourism.

"Our stomachs are full now," he said. "But think very carefully before we take that step because there is no turning back.

"(With Independence) we must think as one people. We don't have that now. In the end, the Country is divided down the middle between black and white. We haven't completely removed the shackles from our eyes...Flag waving is not the answer."

Mr. Woolridge's opinions put him in the hot seat with many in the audience.

Mr. Wade said he was using "boogeyman tactics" and lawyer Mr. Arnold Francis QC said it was "mindboggling that people still had reservations about going Independent."

Mr. Francis recalled earlier changes in Island political life such as opening the Civil Service and universal suffrage where status quo arguments amounted to scaremongering.

"Now we have that same mentality where people are

saying that if Bermuda goes for self-determination everything is going to go to pot," he said.

Mr. Darrell said he saw no reason for the Island not to go Independent.

"There is no reason why we should not have the same stability we have now," he said. "We have the expertise to carry on after Independence."

Mr. Darrell said the PLP was wrong in arguing that Independence should be decided at a general election. Independence, he said, should not be presented through the interpretations of political parties because voters' could be deflected from the real issue by concerns for party loyalty.

Mr. Wade said the UBP over the years had killed Independence through arguments much like those presented by Mr. Woolridge. He insisted there were many options open to the Island. For example, lucrative military agreements could be reached with NATO and other countries could handle costly diplomatic representations.

/13046

CSO: 3298/221

POPULATION INCREASE SHIFTS PROJECT'S PRIORITIES

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 29 Mar 87 sec 2 p 1

[Text] Cochabamba, 28 Mar. Priorities in the Misicuni project have been changed, although the manager of the association will sign final documents in Switzerland to take delivery of the "final design" from the Electrowat consultants, 2 years behind schedule.

The Swiss firm which approved the final design of the gigantic project in 1984 will then deliver this design to the association manager, Jaime Tavera, who is now visiting the headquarters of the European company.

In the meantime, departmental government officials told PRESENCIA that the project as a whole remains the same, even though the order of priorities is being turned around. Now they want first of all to provide drinking water to the city of Cochabamba, whose population increase has been phenomenal.

A year ago, when the city's population was listed at 200,000 inhabitants, the city had a drinking water shortage of 100 liters per day per inhabitant. According to the latest statistical data, the city now has a population of 340,000 inhabitants, of whom only 100,000 receive a normal supply of drinking-quality water.

The municipal government has on a number of occasions explained that this city should expect to have a population of 500,000 inhabitants by the year 2000, so it must plan to increase its drinking-quality water supplies.

Given this context, engineer Eduardo Rodriguez, secretary of energy and hydrocarbons of the departmental government, has proposed a change in the order of priorities. For the Misicuni project, he has suggested that instead of working first of all to generate electricity, the infrastructure work should be done to divert the water flow from the Misicuni watershed toward the central valley.

For this purpose, a letter of intent has been signed by the departmental government and the ministry of mining and metallurgy, to begin opening a 13-kilometer tunnel between the Misicuni watershed and the Molle Molle area in the central valley.

The ministry of mining has agreed to transfer machinery from COMIBOL [Mining Corporation of Bolivia] to do this work, while the departmental government has agreed to absorb the labor relocated from mining projects.

The engineer Rodriguez stated emphatically that Bolivia can not afford the luxury of giving preference to the production of more electricity, at a time when the plants of Corani and Santa Isabel have a surplus for which they have been unable to find a market, when the city urgently needs drinking water, and water is also needed for intensive crop irrigation in the central valley. At the present time only rainy season crops are grown there, one season a year.

Nonetheless, the hydroelectric project must be carried out, as this is the final phase of the gigantic Misicuni project, now that the waters of the Putucuni and Misicuni have been combined, and there is sufficient water to generate electricity.

7679

CSO: 3348/268

BRIEFS

NEW METEOROLOGICAL SYSTEM--On Tuesday, 31 March, a new radiosounding system will begin to function at El Alto Meteorological Station. For the first time this will mean that Bolivia can predict the weather one day in advance. It will also make possible much more precise interpretations of atmospheric pressure, relative humidity, and temperature. The El Alto station had been closed for a long time because it needed a hydrogen generator, and also because of problems with its weather-data receiving equipment. This is now being repaired by a meteorological engineering technician from the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Domingo Gomez, who has been working at the station since 16 March. Funding for the equipment installation and the donation of the generator were provided by the Voluntary Cooperation Program of the U.N. World Meteorological Organization. Until now, data received in Bolivia from other meteorological stations have only been from a surface level. The new methods will use a radiosounding transmitter attached to 2-meter diameter hydrogen balloons. As the balloons rise to an altitude of approximately 30 kilometers, they send back the signals collected. These data will then be interpreted at the station. When the balloons burst, the transmitters, which are detachable, are returned to the ground by small paper parachutes in order to avoid any possible damages when falling. The equipment consists of 800 balloons, 800 transmitters, the hydrogen generator, and spare parts. Its approximate value is US \$100,000. [Text] [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 29 Mar 87 p 3] 7679

BENI AIRPORT COMPLETION SOUGHT--Civilian, political, military and civic officials of Rurrenabague in the department of Beni, in a letter sent to the minister of defense, Luis Fernando Valle, have asked that the town's airport be completed. Their petition was backed by a memorandum approved by the senate, urging the executive to proceed as quickly as possible with the completion of the Rurrenabague airport. The memorandum, sponsored by Sens Ciro Humboldt, Gonzalo Torrico and Daniel Torrico, states: "The executive is hereby informed that the National Senate considers the completion of the runway at the Rurrenabague airport in Beni department important. Therefore, we suggest that the executive, acting through the ministries of transport and communications, and civil aviation, order the resumption of this work as soon as possible. The completion of this town's airport will promote the development of Beni department, and also the development of the northern part of La Paz department. This is important for our national integration." The letter sent to the defense minister, Luis Fernando Valle, by the Rurrenabague officials, states: "We believe the time has come to clear away the obstacles blocking a very important project, the Rurrenabague airport, which has been abandoned for unknown reasons. We assume that these reasons include factors such

as political-economic instability, frequent changes of officials, as well as others of which we have no knowledge. Work on this project, which when it began aroused great enthusiasm on the part of civic, administrative and military authorities, and of the people in general, has now been halted. The airport project was begun with future prospects in mind, such as serving as a support for the northern development pole. We think this is a good time to evaluate the work already done and the work still remaining to be completed. Nonetheless, along with the technical report which we intend to request, we can report to you that the first and second stages have been completely finished, as stipulated in the project planning. A third or fourth phase would totally complete the project. Consequently, we believe this is an appropriate time to update the airport project, by appointing a commission to evaluate the work done, while at the same time quantifying what remains to be done. Our interests and hopes are that this important project may be completed so that Rurrenabaque may serve as the site of the Joint Bol-Usa Maneuvers next May. For our part, we pledge that we will not shirk our responsibilities to further the important interests of the region's development." [Text] [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 29 Mar 37 p 3] 7679

PREINVESTMENT FUNDS ALLOCATED--By October 1987 INALPRE [National Investment Feasibility Studies Institute] will channel resources in the amount of US \$7 million for both the public and private sectors, fulfilling an agreement with the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank], which is financing the overall program. According to information supplied by German Sandoval Pena, director of INALPRE, the agreement with the IDB was signed in October 1984, with the purpose of obtaining preinvestment funds to help to generate balanced development of Bolivia's economy. In 1984 the IDB gave INALPRE a soft credit of US \$11 million, and US \$2 million as national counterpart funding. To date, this funding has financed a total amount of US \$6 million in studies. Sandoval Pena said that it will be possible to channel US \$7 million by next October, since INALPRE is now reviewing 70 private proposals coming to a total of US \$2 million, and the two largest public sector projects will absorb another US \$2 million. These feasibility studies are for the Puerto Quijarro project, designed to provide an outlet to the Atlantic via the Paraguay River, and the Villamontes-Sachapera Highway. He added that at the present time supplemental information is being prepared on other public sector projects. The preinvestment studies financed by INALPRE for the public sector are in the fields of transportation, agricultural development, population settlements, and energy projects. INALPRE has financed studies for aerial photomagnetometry surveying of the highlands for YPFB and for COMIBOL [Mining Corporation of Bolivia], and a US \$2 million study to quantify gold reserves, channeled through the Northern Mining Corporation. To date, 150 preinvestment studies have been financed in the private sector, for mining, agroindustry, and manufacturing projects. One of the most important of these was a study for the Santa Cruz cold storage plant, which used US \$200,000 from INALPRE, requested by the Santa Cruz Cattle Breeders Federation. The funding for the public sector projects covers 90 percent of the total cost of the study, with a mortgage guarantee. The conditions are terms of 4 to 6 years with a 1-year grace period, at an annual interest rate of 8 percent, with a cost maintenance clause. The credits for the public sector are governed by conditions similar to those already mentioned, except for the durations, which are as long as 10 years. The amounts sought for the public sector are higher. [Text] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 5 Apr 87 pp 1, 4] 7679

CSO: 3348/268

OFFICIAL BLAMES SMUGGLING ON EXPORT INCENTIVE

PY280106 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 May 87 p 28

[Article by Moacyr Castro]

[Text] "Duty-free exports" ["Aliquota zero"], a fiscal instrument used by the government to promote exports, has legalized the smuggling of Brazilian soybeans, coffee, sugar, wheat, corn, rice, and black beans into Paraguay. The Federal Police are no longer inspecting trucks loaded with these items out of fear of being charged with abusing their power. Showing his indignation over this problem, Roberto Alves, the Federal Police Superintendent in Campo Grande, said: "We have come to that."

Many people connected with big smugglers based at the border are getting rich thanks to this measure. Notorious criminals are circulating freely, disguised as respectable commercial and agricultural businessmen and as owners of legal Brazilian businesses, the Paraguayan branches of which are being used to collect millions of dollars in Brazilian commodities exported abroad.

By implementing the duty-free export, the Internal Revenue Service is complying with instructions from the Brazilian Government to exempt products from export taxes. Government officials also determine the length of exemption and the list of items to be exempted. Technically, this measure is designed to promote exports. Alves said: "The faucet was opened 2 years ago when Sarney was inaugurated and it has not been closed since." He added: "This procedure is in violation of Article 334 of the Penal Code. It is sheer smuggling and it is sending our commercial balance to hell."

In the long term, this problem will have an impact on the trade balance, will jeopardize our foreign debt interest payments, and will deplete our foreign currency reserves. At this time, however, the duty-free export is making the dollar black market stable. The dollar exchange rate at the black market is now even lower than the dollar rate for tourists and it is only slightly higher than the official rate. "The market is flooded with dollars: Smugglers disguised as businessmen are making huge profits."

Although many people are affected by this measure, Alves prefers to convey his irritation by giving facts: "Last year, the Office of Attorney General requested that 15 inquests opened in Campo Grande concerning smuggling of soybeans be closed on grounds that they were duty-free exports, that is, that no crime was committed. This year, the situation is the same." He also provided figures: in 1986, the Superintendency of Campo Grande confiscated smuggled products totaling 89,728,725.33 Cruzados (\$6 million at the December rate). "That was just 1 percent of the actual amount that was smuggled," Alves said.

BRIEFS

NEW ANGOLAN AMBASSADOR ARRIVES--The new Angolan ambassador to Brazil, Francisco Romao de Oliveira e Silva, arrived in Brasilia today. He advocates breaking relations with South Africa to solve the apartheid problem. He believes that the best contribution of the international community to improve the situation of the South Africans is to cut all economic ties with South Africa. He said that contrary to what is believed, the South African people can still suffer more. [Text] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 18 May 87 PY] /8309

NEW SUPERCONDUCTOR MATERIALS DEVELOPED--A new ceramic material containing yttrium, barium, copper, and oxygen, which becomes a superconductor at minus 181 degrees Celsius, or 92 degrees Kelvin, has just been developed at the Nuclear and Energy Research Institute (IPEN), which is part of the National Nuclear Energy Commission. It was reported in mid-April that a research team at the Sao Carlos Physics and Chemistry Institute of the Sao Paulo University had developed a ceramic material that becomes a superconductor at minus 171 degrees Celsius, or 102 degrees Kelvin. [Summary] [Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 May 87 p A-17] /8309

CSO: 3342/125

ALMEYDA: SOCIALIST PARTY HAS NO ARMED FACTION

Madrid TIEMPO in Spanish 13 Apr 87 pp 84-85

[Interview with Clodomiro Almeyda by Monica Gonzalez, in Chile Chico; date not indicated; first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] To meet with Clodomiro Almeyda, the leader of the most radical faction of Chilean socialism, you have to fly to Coyhaique, the nearest city, and then travel another 150 kilometers south to Chile Chico, a village near the Argentine border, where he has been confined. The reason: having returned to his country at an inopportune time, shortly before the arrival of the pope and amid mounting social and political turmoil.

[Question] When did you decide to return to Chile?

[Answer] Early this year in Lima, when I took part in the conference of Latin American democratic parties. In March I traveled to Argentina to work out the final details. I stayed at the home of a Peronist activist and on the 15th I left San Juan in a station wagon in the company of mule drivers to cross the Andes.

[Question] How did the crossing go?

[Answer] The journey took longer than I had assumed. It snowed. We had to leave the path to avoid Argentine customs. I was dressed like a mule driver, in a gaucho hat. I traveled on muleback for 3 days. We crossed the mountain range in 5 days.

[Question] How did you get through the border post?

[Answer] Shortly before getting to the Conay border pass, in northern Chile, I separated from the guides and went on alone. It was early morning when I went by the post, and everyone was sleeping; no one saw me walk by. I kept on walking for another 2 hours until I found a bus that took me as far as Vallenar.

[Question] You appeared before the judge carrying a suitcase. What did you have inside it?

[Answer] My toiletries, a pair of pajamas, "The Name of the Rose," a history of Germany, and a German grammar book and dictionary. I'm engaged in a battle to the death with the German language. I intend to understand it before it's too late. I was also carrying the outline of a quite pretentious essay that I would like to write; it's an update of the issues that Lenin raised in his book "Extremism, Communism's Infantile Disease."

[Question] You are confined 4 kilometers from the Argentine border. Are you afraid of being expelled from the country at any time?

[Answer] It's always on my mind. I have well-founded fears that the regime's choice of the confinement site has to do with its intention to perhaps expel me. But I'm going to be careful not to give them any pretext for such a move.

[Question] How do you view the current division of the Chilean Socialist Party into different factions?

[Answer] All Chilean socialists share common goals and ideals. I'm sure that in the end what unites us will prevail.

[Question] That sounds nice, but it seems unlikely in practice...

[Answer] We will strive to see to it that as many socialists as possible band together behind the banner of the Left and struggle together to regain freedom. The unity of the Left must be a decisive force for the strength of the entire grassroots movement. A common political line and belonging to a single political alliance will make it easier for all socialists to come together.

[Question] It has been said that an attempt is being made to bring back Popular Unity. Could this be true?

[Answer] The Left is entering a new stage that has holdovers from but also marks a break with the previous one. We must accept what has changed in the world over the past 15 years. Here lies the challenge to the new Left: to provide a bold, original response that can assure the hegemony of the people on the road towards socialism. We must concert with other political forces, Christian Democracy in particular. This is fundamental in defeating the dictatorship and strengthening and consolidating the future democracy.

[Question] Is it true that your party is training armed detachments to confront the Chilean military regime?

[Answer] The Socialist Party does not have an armed wing. The Cinco de Abril Detachments and the Salvador Allende Brigades stem from the people's natural desire to defend themselves with every means at their disposal against the violence and terrorism of the dictatorship.

[Question] So isn't your party seeking the military defeat of General Pinochet's regime?

[Answer] We have just signed a document, along with the Communist Party and the Christian Left, that makes it perfectly clear that what we are seeking is the political, not the military defeat of the regime. Obviously, therefore, we attach priority to the mass struggle.

[Question] Do you think that the attack on General Pinochet helped in this struggle?

[Answer] As events unfolded, the results were not positive. In fact, the attack helped further the decline in the social mobilization that had been under way since the second half of last July.

[Question] What do you think today of the policy of "moving ahead without making concessions" that the Socialist Party led by Carlos Altamirano, who is today the leader of the moderate sector of Chilean socialism, called for under the Allende government?

[Answer] I did not support that theory then and I do not support it now. It evolved into "moving ahead without thinking." I advocated a sensible policy that would take into account the actual correlation of forces. The failure to do so contributed to the success of the counterrevolution.

[Question] In your judgment, what other mistakes contributed to the defeat of Popular Unity?

[Answer] We did not have a proper policy for dealing with the problem of the Armed Forces. We naively believed that they were outside and above politics. There was also not enough unity among the components of Popular Unity to achieve a more consistent leadership.

[Question] What do you remember about General Pinochet from the period before the coup d'etat?

[Answer] When the tank rebellion, the abortive military uprising of June 1973, took place, General Pinochet came before President Allende to report that he had carried out the orders to quash the coup. What caught my attention was the way in which he saluted, standing at attention and bowing his head exaggeratedly.

[Question] There are many stories about you when you were foreign minister. You reportedly nodded off during a meeting with King Baudouin of Belgium.

[Answer] I met with King Baudouin. We were both quite tired. That made for quite a plodding conversation, and it got moving only after we sort of nodded off, which enabled us to release the tension inside us.

[Question] You returned to Santiago on 10 September 1973, a day before the coup. What were your contacts like with Allende at that time?

[Answer] I went right from the airport to La Moneda Palace. President Allende was calm, in spite of the difficult situation. The next day he was planning to summon Chileans to a plebiscite to resolve the most urgent

political problems. Allende thought that that would relieve the tension and create a new political scenario. He asked me to be at his home early the next day to see the speech.

[Question] Did you make it there?

[Answer] Orlando Letelier, the then defense minister who was murdered 3 years later by a commando unit of General Pinochet's secret police in Washington, awoke me that morning. He told me about the military uprising. I immediately called Allende at his home. The president was leaving for La Moneda. I left right away for the government palace. When the bombing occurred, I was in the outer wing of the building. I saw the fire from there. I was arrested by an army detachment at around 1700 hours.

[Question] Who saw the full text of the speech that Allende was supposed to deliver on 11 September?

[Answer] Orlando Letelier, who worked on it with the president.

[Question] You are said to be writing your memoirs...

[Answer] That's true. I think that an account of my life that I have just completed will be published next month. Exile forces one to look back. It shows that I am beginning to realize that I'm entering the third and final stage of my life.

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CS0: 3348/299

RADICAL PARTY SPLITS; PALMA CHARGED WITH FOSTERING DIVISION

Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 29 Apr 87 sec 2 pp 1, 4

[Text] The dissident minority headed by former Deputy Joaquin Morales Abarzua has decided not to break up the Radical Party (PR) and to debate its internal problems.

On the eve of the convention, which opens tomorrow, the former lawmaker stated: "I feel that pursuing that course is political suicide. Therefore, those who refuse to realize this fact can go on with their parallel convention, which to me is nothing more or nothing less than a split of Radicalism."

The climate inside Radicalism was relatively calm until yesterday, as it was announced in the various provinces that the delegates of both the Silva Cimma faction and the dissidents had arrived in Santiago for the gathering on 30 April and 1 and 2 May. There were also rumors that efforts were afoot to get former Senator Luis Fernando Luengo not to insist on calling a parallel convention, after it was realized that Anibal Palma was seeking to divide Radicalism. Nevertheless, party leadership circles let it be known that the vice president had overstepped disciplinary bounds by calling for a parallel meeting.

At the same time, Joaquin Morales, Carlos Gaete, Olegario Hurtado, Pedro Leyton and other members of the dissident faction announced that they would insist on a convention in their remarks and that their differences with the Radical Party president persist. Nevertheless, they stressed, it will be the convention that will decide on an interpretation of the political vote and the Declaration of Principles, beside other controversial issues.

Meeting

Disagreement among the dissidents deepened further Monday and yesterday as the Organizing Committee met on Sotero del Rio Street. Morales, Chulack, Hurtado and Leyton reported on the outcome of their talks with the president of the PR, Enrique Silva Cimma.

Regarding what the leader of Radicalism and the minority agreed on, Joaquin Morales indicated that the dissidents were acknowledged to have the delegates

from the Fourth Region and that both the president of the Silva Cimma faction and the representative of the minority are coming. Mario Barahona and Guillermo Sanchez are coming from Valparaiso. Mario Ramirez, a dissident, will attend the convention along with other delegates elected by the Fourth District of Santiago. Fernando Melo, another member of the minority faction, will represent the Seventh Region (Curico, Talca, Linares and Maule).

Morales reported that it was decided at the meeting with Silva Cimma that only the assemblies that have been active without interruption up to 30 April, not 30 June, are entitled to elect delegates to the convention. Therefore, several delegates from the Silva Cimma faction who were going to attend the convention will not. In a desire to democratize the meeting, Morales said, the Chamber of Former Radical Legislators will be entitled to choose four delegates.

He emphasized that "with these accomplishments we feel that our requests to democratize the convention have been met and, therefore, we will attend, thus flatly rejecting the call for a parallel convention."

Nevertheless, the agreement signed by Silva Cimma and the dissidents was not accepted by those who called the parallel convention and who are led by Anibal Palma and Luis Fernando Luengo. They insisted that a five-man super commission must review the work done by the Convention Organizing Committee.

The stand by Palma and Luengo prompted harsh words in the Organizing Committee among members of the divided dissident faction. Morales, Gaete, Hurtado, Chulack and others told the two Radical leaders that they would be held responsible for trying to break up the PR.

At the heated meeting Anibal Palma was told that he was endeavoring to split Radicalism just days before he was to leave the country and return to the German Democratic Republic, where he has been taking college classes for 6 months. Luis Fernando Luengo was told, in turn, that he would be held responsible for creating a new party without the backing of Palma and without the necessary funding.

Anibal Palma was also reminded that last January at a luncheon that he gave at his home for a group of friends (Ceval) he announced his decision to withdraw from the PR. The dissident Radicals who were at the session indicated yesterday that "Palma has wanted to leave Radicalism for a long time, and recent events have shown us that he is indeed trying to split the party, and that is not what we are after."

Overseas Representatives

Meanwhile, the nine overseas representatives, who have voting rights, arrived in Santiago yesterday. They came from Austria and Venezuela. After arriving they asked to be informed of the situation inside Radicalism.

It was also learned that Anselmo Sule, who is in Ciudad de La Plata, Argentina, is also being kept abreast of events. It was remarked that Sule will likely keep his post as overseas vice president of the PR to maintain his

relationship with the party, which would automatically leave Anibal Palma isolated. It was rumored yesterday that Sule is opposed to a parallel convention.

Neither the site of the parallel convention or the number of attending delegates was known as of yesterday. Palma is currently president of the First District.

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SOCIALIST PROPOSAL REPORTEDLY FAILS TO UNIFY OPPOSITION

Santiago LA NACION in Spanish 29 Apr 87 p 8

[Commentary by Eduardo von Klausen: "Socialist Proposal"]

[Text] In the face of the bleak panorama among the various opposition factions, which are confronting a series of dilemmas that have accentuated top-echelon rifts within and between parties, some are seeking to present new prescriptions that can unite the various opposition parties.

One of the latest initiatives in this regard was the proposal of Christian Democrat Andres Zaldivar. He proposes forming an alliance of five parties (a "pentaparty") among his group, Nunez' Socialists, the Radicals, the Social Democrats and the Nationals. The proposal has so far not been well received, however, as the Nationals and Social Democrats have chosen to register individually as parties, the Radicals are in the midst of a severe conflict and Nunez' Socialists have said that they will not abide by the Political Parties Law.

In response, Nunez' Socialists have submitted a fresh proposal for concerted action. As a side remark I would add that the Socialists really do not seem to be the ones who should be promoting unity accords, inasmuch as they have not even been able to reunify the countless socialist factions that coexist today.

In any event, as a result of its most recent plenum the aforementioned Socialist faction has decided to call on the other opposition groups to draft and sign three pacts or pledges: one on the constitution, another on human rights and a third on economic and social matters.

According to Ricardo Nunez, signing these pacts is no way implies forming a government or electoral coalition; it is just a commitment to respect their provisions. Whether in the future and on the basis of these fundamental principles they can put together an electoral and government alliance and even designate a common candidate, is another matter, he says. Lastly, according to Nunez, this initiative represents a further development (once again!) of the National Accord and the Foundations for Upholding a Democratic Regime.

Socialist leaders are asserting that the groups that make up the MDP [Popular Democratic Movement] (the Communists, the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] and the Almeyda Socialists) are prepared to sign the aforementioned pacts, except the one on economic and social matters in the case of the Communists, who no doubt must find it too moderate.

We can imagine the content of these "pacts" if the MDP has agreed to take part in polishing them and then to sign them. What it shows is that the successive "further developments" of the so-called "National Accord" increasingly represent a communitarian socialist blueprint for government.

It therefore undoubtedly seems that the opposition's unifying initiatives have gradually degenerated from an apparently democratic agenda that stood above specific ideological agendas into a clearly ideological blueprint that offers socialist and even Marxist prescriptions. In addition, through their various efforts at unity opposition groups have managed to gather together without excluding anyone, thus scuttling their far from believable stands on violence and ignoring Article 8 of the Political Constitution.

Thus, the stand that groups such as the Christian Democrats, the Nationals, the Social Democrats, etc take on the new proposal for concerted action from Nunez' Socialists will be very significant.

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SANFUENTES CALLS ON OPPOSITION TO FORM 'A COMMON GROUND'

Santiago CAUCE in Spanish 4-10 May 87 pp 8-11

[Interview with the secretary general of the Popular Democratic Movement (MDP), Jose Sanfuentes, by Victor Vaccaro; date and place not specified; first five paragraphs are introduction]

[Text] Whether because there is some truth to it or because a solution for Chile makes it indispensable, a wide range of political and social circles are predicting or denying a change in the communist tactic of the grassroots rebellion, which to many impedes any possibility of an understanding among the opposition at large.

The article by the secretary general of the Communist Party (PC), Luis Corvalan, that was published recently in Chile under the title "Everyone Against the Dictatorship!" introduced several positive elements, according to analysts, in this climate of expectations that is being fueled by small contradictory signals.

Writing from exile in Moscow, Corvalan regards it as naive to think that the dictatorship can be combated by exclusively peaceful means, although he does not deny that it could happen, as long as it is the result "of the resolute and combative action of the working class and the people, of the broadest and most vigorous mass movement, of a political understanding among all in the opposition."

Remarks such as this and his recognition that "there are the beginnings of a consensus on the demand for free elections" created the feeling that something was changing. To corroborate this we interviewed Jose Sanfuentes, the secretary general of the MDP and the main public representative of the Communist Party. We began by asking him whether we could intuit a change of the PC's line from Corvalan's article.

"The situation is very changeable as the current struggle unfolds in Chile. It stands to reason that an overall strategy to confront the dictatorship will be applied creatively in accordance with specific circumstances. There is much talk about the alleged dogmatism of communists, but in fact we are the antithesis of that. Our policy known as the 'grassroots rebellion,' enriched in 1980, still stands and is reaffirmed in every way. The manner of pursuing

it has to do with the specific situation in which the struggle for democracy is unfolding. The initiatives pursued from 1985 to July 1986 were different from the approach to problems in May 1987."

[Question] Is this change dictated by the discovery of the arsenals and the failed attempt on General Pinochet's life?

[Answer] There may be other factors, but it is fundamentally dictated by the policy of the Center-Right to divorce itself from the grassroots mobilization, under the influence of American imperialism and out of fear of the mobilized people. Secondly, the differences within the opposition have widened because of the laws and Pinochet's plan. This means that the Center-Right is no longer talking about social mobilization, civil disobedience or ungovernability.

[Question] The opposition forces assert that this is because the PC, behind everyone's back, is pursuing confrontational actions such as the attack [on Pinochet] and the militarization of politics...

[Answer] Yes, some explain the change that way, but it had already come to pass. When the private political committee was shattered, they dissociated themselves from further mobilizations. But the determining factor is that today, in the face of the dictatorship's repressive offensive since September and its current institutionalizing offensive, the Center-Right sectors are going along with the rules of the game that Pinochet wants to impose to perpetuate himself in power.

[Question] But it was the secretary general of the PS [Socialist Party], R. Nunez, not the Center-Right, who reminded you that "the use of all forms of struggle exposes the masses who are prepared to mobilize to end the dictatorship to the bloodiest repressions, to futile costs and to the strengthening of the internal cohesiveness of the Armed Forces."

[Answer] It was precisely the failure to use all forms of struggle and the people's scant capacity for self-defense that made possible the 11 September coup...

[Question] But the socialists upheld those ideas at the time, while the PC was opposed to civil war...

[Answer] That was a just policy, because we knew that fascism was preparing the coup and genocide. We had to mobilize all democrats to oppose fascism, and we did not succeed. Before the people made use of their capacity for self-defense and confronted the dictatorship in all arenas, the most atrocious crimes were committed, torture, disappearances, unlimited abuses of human rights.

[Question] Don't you agree that the militarization of politics has enabled Pinochet to recover and strengthen his position?

[Answer] The past 13 years show that this is not a good argument and that the regime has been the one that has militarized the entire life of this country,

not just politics, and that's the way it will be as long as the dictatorship remains.

[Question] Has the military response of leftwing sectors been effective?

[Answer] What has been effective is that our people have seen the need to responsibly adopt all forms of struggle to defend themselves from state terrorism. This has been necessary because a day does not pass in Chile when all human rights are not abused. If we were able to express ourselves in a free and sovereign manner, 11 million Chileans would take to the streets and we would end the dictatorship the next day.

[Question] They have taken to the streets, and the majority have withdrawn because they did not agree with certain forms of demonstration, such as armed propaganda...

[Answer] Millions have taken to the streets. What has prevented the continued growth of the movement has strictly been state terrorism practiced with the most outrageous violence every time that the Chilean people demonstrate freely and peacefully. The dictatorship's apparent justification for killing and slitting throats has not been necessary.

[Question] Are you willing to demonstrate by specific actions that you are opting for a political solution and seeking a common path among the opposition?

[Answer] I propose that CAUCE invite all opposition political parties to a forum for understanding and sit them down at a table to talk things over and reach an agreement on minimum shared objectives and on methods and forms, a common path to end the dictatorship. We want to clarify this issue and we say to the opposition: let's sit down in front of the people and, ready and willing to listen to all opinions, chart a common path, without exclusions of any sort.

[Question] In any event, can a vigorous mass movement like the one that Luis Corvalan proposes be reconciled with the training of military contingents that the PC has acknowledged?

[Answer] No matter what methods the people are forced to adopt, the masses, the millions of Chileans who oppose the dictatorship will do everything. We have always attached priority to the masses and their actions, and they are learning to act in accordance with the circumstances. As for the problem of military training, forms of struggle, violence, I repeat: the first thing is to sit down and talk.

[Question] You have been saying this for some time. Why do you think that people do not believe you?

[Answer] The division in the opposition is obviously scandalous, in that Pinochet will continue to rule as long as there is no accord among democrats. Rightwing spokesmen, including segments of DC [Christian Democracy], are now underscoring that the problem in the opposition is that there are different

objectives, that the communists want a dictatorship of the proletariat and that we want plain democracy, but they do not explain what they mean by that, They have no desire to reach an understanding within the opposition.

[Question] At whom specifically are you leveling this charge?

[Answer] I am leveling it at all spokesmen who normally place themselves on the Right, who have consistently raised objections to an understanding, such as the rightist sectors of DC that have no desire to find a joint solution, which is the only one possible.

[Question] What is your specific proposal to the rest of the opposition?

[Answer] Our proposal is clear and generous: minimum shared objectives. We are told that we are calling for an advanced democracy, which is true, but the entire spectrum of the Left and broad centrist sectors share this idea...

[Question] In other words, for the time being your "advanced democracy" means democracy and change, not the dictatorship of the proletariat?

[Answer] Exactly. We are not proposing the dictatorship of the proletariat for Chile tomorrow. We are proposing advanced democracy, which literally means democracy in the fullest extent of the word, and changes in the State, in its coercive machinery, an in-depth democratization of the Judiciary, of the Armed Forces and of the State's administrative machinery. And we are proposing sweeping changes in the Chilean economy and society. We may not reach an agreement on this with the entire opposition. Our stand is: let's achieve democracy and allow the people to decide their destiny sovereignly.

[Question] The sectors that you are leaving out are saying the same thing...

[Answer] What they are saying is different, because there are those who want to win by a landslide. What they are proposing today is not free elections, but rather elections with Pinochet in power and with 30 or 40 percent of the population outlawed...

[Question] Are you saying that the MDP represents 40 percent of the population?

[Answer] We feel that the united forces of the Left represent an overwhelmingly significant segment of the Chilean people that no one can disregard, not today and not tomorrow.

[Question] You must also realize that the majority of the opposition, including major leftwing sectors, wants an agreed upon solution.

[Answer] The regime has institutionalized barbarism and high-handedness. A date has been set, and Pinochet is now launching his campaign, his voter registries, his political parties law. If no one accepts his little game, it will be a total failure for him. Pinochet today is trying to be the white dove, telling Matthei and Merino to talk about a future dialogue, to say that once the parties register we are going to have a dialogue, offer these people

something but get them to register, and then we'll throw the famous dialogue into the wastepaper basket. Pinochet needs a divided opposition for his plan and needs to coopt part of it to legitimize his little game.

[Question] At one point the PC regarded the apparent disagreements between members of the Junta and Pinochet as positive...

[Answer] We are convinced that there is chaos inside the regime, that there is brutal controversy over the best ways of maintaining fascism in Chile. The apparent disagreements between the commanders in chief have normally been jointly devised war games or disputes that are settled in just one way: the others keep quiet and Pinochet speaks.

[Question] What is your prescription for frustrating the designs of the commander in chief?

[Answer] At countless forums with people from the DC, the PS or the PN [National Party] we have all started from two basic premises: 90 percent of the country is opposed to Pinochet, and common sense indicates that in unity there is strength. If Pinochet gets one part of the opposition to play along with his game and represses the other, we're all screwed. Chile is screwed. That's the crime of it. We must be on common ground to confront the offensive aimed at perpetuating Pinochet in power, and to that end we have to sit down and talk.

[Question] There are certain clear-cut points, such as that the solution is political, that there should be no exclusions, that there should be mobilization or social pressure. But is the aim to negotiate with the Armed Forces or to topple the regime?

[Answer] We have said that we will never dialogue with Pinochet, because that leads nowhere. We must remove the main obstacle to move forward towards democracy, get Pinochet out of the way...

[Question] How do you do that?

[Answer] It's so simple. Through mobilization and oneness of objectives among all opposition forces. When that happened, Pinochet was weaker. If we all take the path of mobilization and understanding, we'll have Pinochet out in months.

[Question] How can you reach an understanding when the majority of the opposition feels that such an approach will lead to a confrontation that is favorable to Pinochet?

[Answer] Are they going to remove Pinochet by lending him a hand?

[Question] What they are saying is mobilization to negotiate a transition with the Armed Forces...

[Answer] Ah! It's different when at a given moment the Armed Forces are willing to pave the way for democracy and start talking with the country's

democratic forces to bring it about. Fantastic! That can be achieved in a country in rebellion, that disobeys the dictatorship, with the opposition united and millions of Chileans mobilized. That would force anyone to say: we have to put an end to this today, we have to talk with people.

[Question] A lot of people were involved in this, and at a given point they refused to be dragged along other paths. Why aren't people responding to the calls that the MDP alone has issued subsequently?

[Answer] Because it is very important for the people to see strength before confronting Pinochet, and such strength does not exist when the opposition is divided.

[Question] And if you realize that, why are you calling for the kind of rallies that do not have the concerted support of the opposition?

[Answer] We are always seeking an accord. We came to terms on each of the demonstrations that worked. Now, when they are not joining in, we're not just going to sit home. If there are 50 of us, we're going to take to the streets. Happily, there are quite a few more of us who are consistently democratic and prepared to struggle against the dictatorship.

[Question] Does the campaign for free elections seem to you to be an appropriate framework for an understanding or the "beginnings of a consensus," as L. Corvalan says?

[Answer] There is a diversity of views on the campaign for free elections. Some people, such as the cliquish committee of leading figures or Mrs Silvia Alessandri, who is in charge on the committee, see it as a way of complying with voter registration and the political parties law.

[Question] But you're picking out one specific figure. Why don't you mention Moy de Toha or Edgardo Condeza?

[Answer] The committee of leading figures is not broad or representative and is promoting a campaign for anything but democracy, not for truly free elections. What Silvia Alessandri has in mind is a campaign to play along with the dictatorship. She supported the coup and has never said a word against the dictatorship.

[Question] You're still talking about Silvia. Didn't you say recently that you're prepared to talk with the Right, the Center and the rest of the Left?

[Answer] I'm not going to talk with a rightwing that plays along with Pinochet and ultimately stands behind him. I am going to talk with a democratic Right.

[Question] Where do you derive your ability to decide who is a democrat and who is not?

[Answer] We do not decide. The facts decide. We have met with PN people at forums and we acknowledge that they have made some headway in their opposition

to Pinochet. They realize that they are jeopardizing the interests of the Right and the reactionary groups in this country. But does that make them democrats? No. Democratic convictions are played out in history and in the present. What does Mrs Alessandri say about the banning of the MDP or about true democratic elections?

[Question] Excuse me, but all of the members of the committee have come out against exclusions.

[Answer] What do you mean, against exclusions? Some of them are registering under the parties law, which provides for exclusions.

[Question] I think you're wrong. The 14 leading figures have never said that the parties have to register. Like their colleague Maria Maluenda, they have called on all of us to register to vote and to struggle for open and free elections, on which we are all in agreement, even the parties of the regime. Aren't you in agreement with Mrs Maluenda's call to support this initiative?

[Answer] She has not put it that way. If any of us are invited to a forum with whomever, we will go and respectfully discuss agreements and disagreements.

[Question] What I am saying is that Maria has endorsed the call to register to vote as a logical consequence of the realization that the solution is political.

[Answer] Voter registration is a safe tool for a Pinochet fraud. Now then, if someone wants to register, we are not going to confront him. But we will ask him: Will that put food in your mouth? Are you going to vote with Pinochet monitoring plebiscites?

[Question] They have said that the campaign is to impose free elections and amendments to the constitution.

[Answer] When we put an end to the dictatorship and create a regime that will put this country on the road to democracy, the next day there will be computerized voter registries.

[Question] Don't you believe them when they say that this is the way to end the dictatorship?

[Answer] Complying with the political laws is not the way...

[Question] No. They are calling on people to demand free elections, which is not what Pinochet is proposing, and to register to mobilize the people...

[Answer] That is another matter. We are resolutely in favor of free elections. Like anyone else, we are for free elections. We are for launching a campaign and linking it to all of the people's grievances. Let's form a broad committee of leading figures, without exclusions. Why aren't all groups represented, the workers, the slum dwellers, young people, all political parties?

[Question] Is it perhaps because that approach was tried with the Civic Assembly and it didn't work too well?

[Answer] The Civic Assembly was and is a great experience and has not failed at all. It will again play a major role in the opposition struggle. Let's form a broad committee that can mobilize people for bread, jobs and justice, which are as urgent as free elections.

[Question] Listening to you, I get the impression that any dialogue would be futile from the start because you do not believe what the other side is saying.

[Answer] We believe the facts. We see the facts and we see that the first thing that Mrs Alessandri and others have done is go and talk with the regime.

[Question] What is the alternative? Don't you have to talk with the Armed Forces?

[Answer] This is not the Armed Forces' regime. The first thing is for those of us who want democracy to talk among ourselves, and then we can talk with the Armed Forces.

[Question] How can you come to terms when from the outset some think that the only viable thing is to talk with the regime and you reject that from the start?

[Answer] Let's sit down and talk and seek an accord, which can only be for what everyone says: to mobilize this country and, we would add, for all of us to unite. Many will be willing to talk with us.

[Question] One newspaper had you saying that the people who attended the parties' meeting with the pope reached an agreement that they supposedly did not keep. Is this true?

[Answer] I didn't say that. I indicated that we had made a proposal for an agreement, that there was no response and that the pope and the Chilean Church had given a lesson by sitting down and talking with all opposition forces without exception. Why not recreate this constructive climate?

[Answer] Clodomiro Almeyda has just proposed that the Left meet with the Democratic Alliance to reach a broad national accord. Do you support this proposal?

[Answer] Absolutely. I agree fully with Almeyda's words. The names of the people we sit down with make no difference. The important thing is for all of us fundamental democratic players to sit down and talk.

[Question] What do you think of the multiparty initiative for pacts on the constitution, social justice and human rights that the DC, Nunez' PS and the PR [Radical Party] are pursuing but that is open to other forces?

[Answer] We feel that it is a very interesting initiative. And not just the communists, but the entire MDP is willing, tomorrow, to sit down and talk and, in a spirit of flexibility, reach an accord on those three pacts.

[Question] What importance do you attach to the demand to democratize the Armed Forces?

[Answer] We are saying that in their substance the Armed Forces must be democratized. As to their form, the Armed Forces have a structure that is in keeping with their professional function. A democratized substance means that whoever does not believe in democracy, the fascists who today and yesterday have used the Armed Forces for their own purposes and could use them again tomorrow, must leave. It means training commissioned and noncommissioned officers and enlisted men in democratic principles of security and getting that whole foreign theory of so-called national security out of their heads. And it also means that as individuals their members can take part fully in the country's democratic life.

[Question] What truth is there to the reports of a PC summit meeting in June to decide its political line and elect new leaders?

[Answer] I really have no information. These are rumors.

[Question] Do you favor a leftwing understanding beyond the MDP?

[Answer] With the entire Left, as in the case of the closed-door meeting [conclave], but even broader. In the case of the PR, we are interested in reaching agreements within the framework of the Chilean Left. There are those who think that a united Left divides the opposition. The truth is that when the Left unites, we become an important pole and reach positive accords with the DC. We can say without doubt that a united Left is the path towards a united opposition. We are determined to help create a solid, coherent, broad leftist front, and all of us who are consistently struggling for democracy and change will join it.

[Question] But a united Left pushed the Center and the Right into a venture that has hurt the people. Couldn't there be a repeat of this today?

[Answer] I don't think so. First, because we have the experience. But also because the Left today is broader.

In the future this country will be more leftwing than in the past as a result of the injustices and the gross social inequalities that the current regime has created. There is a broad spectrum of the Left that is in the majority.

Joining the traditional Left today are new forces, loads of leftwing Christians with and without a party, progressive independents, a good many humanists.

[Question] In your view, does the existence of a socialist area facilitate or thwart an understanding on the Left?

[Answer] I am convinced that things are moving in Chile towards a broad socialist force, which will take the form of a broad Socialist Party within the Left, and that it is today and will be tomorrow a very influential element for the interests of our people and democracy.

VICTIM RECOUNTS, DESCRIBES CNI TORTURE

Santiago CAUCE in Spanish 16 Mar 87 pp 33-35

[Text] After a trade union leader had been shot in the head, after which his neck was broken (Tucapel Jimenez), three professional men were kidnapped and their necks broken as well (Parada, Guerrero and Nattino), two young men were burned alive by a military patrol (Rodrigo Rojas and Carmen Gloria Quintana), a journalist was kidnapped and found dead with 14 bullets in his head (Jose Carrasco), three members of the opposition were assassinated by the same methods described above (Rivera, Vidaurrezaga and Muskatblie), and hundreds of persons had reported being tortured (the majority of these deeds are attributed to the security services), it would seem that the last word had been said concerning the violation of human rights in Chile.

But there was still something more to come.

The story told by Dr Pedro Raul Marin Hernandez in the case being heard in the 20th Criminal Court last Friday (on which judgment will be handed down today) is simply one of horror and even insanity.

Dr Marin Hernandez is one of the many charged by the ad hoc military prosecutor, Fernando Torres Silva, in connection with the attack on the president's retinue. He is charged with being the physician in charge of an alleged clandestine clinic operated by the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front and located on Piacenza Street, where he is alleged to have treated some of those responsible for the events of last 7 September.

In the trial, it is charged that the crimes of sodomy, bodily injury, torture and theft were committed. We are carrying the statement made verbatim, neither adding nor subtracting even a comma. Only the subtitles are ours. You, the readers, will make the final judgment.

The Arrest

"Exercising the right conferred upon me by Article 93 of the Criminal Procedures Code, I am filing charges for the crimes of sodomy, bodily injury, torture and theft, of which I was made a victim, and which were committed by

officials of the National Intelligence Center (CNI), located in Santa Maria. I am bringing suit on the basis of the facts I will relate and the legal provisions which I will mention in due course.

"On 15 January of this year, at about 3 pm, while living at No 6027 Estadium Street, I was detained by an individual as I left my home to go shopping. Naturally, I resisted, and this individual then began to punch and strike me. I succeeded in freeing myself and I ran several blocks, pursued by several individuals who were traveling in vehicles and who fired intermittent shots. They caught up with me and proceeded to strike me on the head with the butts of their pistols. I bled profusely and lost consciousness. When I awoke, I was lying on a stretcher. I vomited, and as I was regaining consciousness somewhat, I understood from the conversation of my captors that I was in the premises of the CNI on Santa Maria Street.

"After a while, they began to beat me on the face and head. It seems that they took a photograph of me. They blindfolded me and put a [buzo] (Kermy brand) and shoes on me. This was because two CNI doctors had come to examine me. It appeared from the questions one of them asked me that he was a neurosurgeon. He examined me carefully, especially checking my reflexes, and he ordered my head shaved. My headaches became increasingly violent and they took me to the torture table again. They bound me with leather straps, they insulted me, they beat me, and they questioned me all during these blows and insults. Finally they applied electrical current to me. The electrodes were attached with adhesive tape to my ankles, thighs, abdomen, genitals, throat, head and neck, alternately. They gagged me with a towel. I lost all concept of time. They told me they were going to kill me since I had entered the country illegally."

Sodomy Charged

"They said I was Pedro de "El Carrizal," a friend of Bunster, and that I participated as a "sharpshooter" in the attack on General Pinochet. They said it would be better to confess the truth, because if I continued to deny it, they would arrest my mother and torture her in my presence. If I spoke, they beat me again and made me call them "sir." They stood me on my feet with my arms above my head and then they made me abuse myself. Finally they took me to a cell. I do not know how long this suffering lasted. I believed it was finished, but the same torture I have described began again. They injected something in my arm which caused me pain, and in the end I fainted. They threatened me, saying that "the captain" would come and subject me to the submarine torture. They attached electrodes to my anus and penis. But the worst was yet to come. They called me a homosexual and demanded that I admit having had sexual relations with various men whose names they supplied me. Since I denied it, they committed sodomy on me on the torture table itself. For this purpose, they thrust me violently into a kneeling position and one of my torturers raped me. I will never forget his voice."

Identification

"During one of the torture sessions, I do not remember which one, since there were more than I could count, the blindfold fell from my eyes, and the first

thing I saw was an individual who shouted like a madman and applauded, and for this reason his face is engraved in my memory. I was greatly surprised when I was taken to the office of the military prosecutor several days later and I saw that he was the clerk of the secretariat of Mr Baglietti's prosecutors office. I was so furious that despite the condition I was in, I identified him to Mr Baglietti. He was indignant, telling me that this clerk was his brother.

"I am perfectly able to identify him.

"They gave me some cold meals. No water, since they said it might cause a cardiac arrest.

"They made me dishonest proposals, demanding that I denounce other persons and repent and make statements for the daily newspaper LA TERCERA. They said they would get me out of the country with legal documents and money. They said if I wanted to stay in Chile, they would help me to renew my license to practice as a physician and work with them, etc., etc. And when I refused, they beat me.

"I cannot say how many days passed, because I could not distinguish day from night. I heard constant music and sometimes heartrending shrieks. By his footsteps and voice, I can identify one of my torturers, nicknamed "The Crane," the man who later turned me over to the prosecutors office, and his name is Oscar Gonzalez Zuniga, or at least so I believe."

Theft

"I do not know the statement I made to the prosecutor covers all of what I have said and my injuries. The last thing I want to add is that despite the time which has elapsed, I continue to suffer from violent headaches and anal and urethral incontinence.

"At the time of my arrest I had with me \$750 and 23,000 pesos.

"When I was transferred to the prosecutor's office, my torturers handed over the sum of \$200 and 23,000 pesos, and thus I was the victim of the theft of \$550.

"Finally, I must note that my torturers took a pair of sunglasses.

"From the facts reported it can be concluded, as I have already said, that I was the victim of three crimes--sodomy, bodily injury and torture, and that those responsible were employees of the CNI, whose individual identities will be established in the course of the investigation."

The Crimes

The court suit was filed by an attorney, Nilde Garfias Benito.

Without a doubt, the most serious crime, if one of the deeds related was more serious than another, is sodomy. It is defined in Article 365 of the Criminal

Code as "sexual relations or intercourse between two men." And in this case, the provisions of paragraph one of that article must be taken into account, making the crime committed against Marin Hernandez more serious: "When force or intimidation is used against the victim."

The crime of theft is relatively clear on the basis of the testimony presented by the physician who was tortured. The same is true of the crime of bodily injury. It must be regarded as serious, since the blows received caused injury to the cranium and serious headaches, which are still continuing.

In connection with the torture, the statement emphasized: "The members who tortured me are guilty of the crime the characteristics of which are described in Article 130 of the Criminal Code. I say characteristics, because the consequences of torture involve psychological repercussions which differ from the serious injuries with which some seek to confuse them."

With the document was a photostatic copy of the statements made by Dr Marin to the Pedro Aguirre Cerda Appeals Court, including a detailed list of the injuries. It will certainly serve as a supplement for Rene Garcia Villegas, the magistrate in charge of the investigation in the 20th Criminal Court.

The injured party is urging that various procedures be undertaken. They include obtaining from the CNI the register of those arrested, for the perusal of the court; obtaining from prosecutor Fernando Torres the names of the employees of the security service who turned Pedro Marin over to him; issuance of a summons to the CNI employee who gives his name as Oscar Gonzalez Zuniga, who turned the victim over to the prosecutor's office; and an exhaustive medical examination of all the injuries, as well as the physical evidence of the crime of sodomy, to be carried out by the Forensic Medical Institute and court professionals.

This new outrage of which the investigation is beginning is perhaps one of the incidents with the fullest background information which might lead to identification of those responsible for the crime of sodomy, a delicate issue. For the first time, a victim can reliably identify one of his attackers. However, the proper administration of justice is something which remains to be seen. It would not be too surprising if, as has occurred on innumerable occasions, the investigation of the case by a civil court were suspended. When those involved are persons who come under military jurisdiction, they are in practice rescued from the ordinary courts, and rulings of improper jurisdiction are solicited. Thus it is never possible to establish the truth in those cases in which the victims are opponents of the government. Finally, the honesty, courage and true manliness of Dr Pedro Marin, reflected in his decision to denounce actions of this type, should be noted. It cannot be easy for any man to admit these things, much less to do so in public. This only aggravates the serious psychological consequences which still continue. But his powerlessness, his anger at what he has suffered and his determination that what is really happening in this country be made known won out.

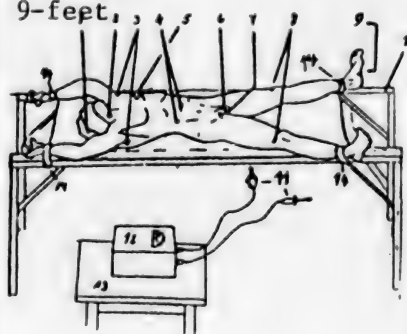
One can only wonder whether on this occasion, the CNI will issue a public statement similar to that made in connection with the arrest of the young Claudia Drago Camus.

They will say that Marin "received the treatment which is prescribed for any individual subject to court prosecution."



Shock Points (1-9)

- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| 1-temple | 10-hospital |
| 2-neck | stretcher |
| 3-arms | 11-plug-type |
| 4-stomach/ | diodes |
| abdomen | 12-transformer |
| 5-nipples | 13-table |
| 6-penis | 14-restraints |
| 7-anus | |
| 8-thighs | |
| 9-feet | |



5157

CSO: 3348/284

INCREASE IN 1987 BUDGET AMOUNT REQUESTED

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 28 Apr 87 pp 1A, 9A

[Article by Efrain Pachon]

[Text] The government will submit to the Council of State for its consideration a proposal to make an initial addition of 45 billion pesos to the national budget for 1987 in order to cover shortfalls in the financing of the rehabilitation plan and the servicing of the foreign debt of the electricity sector.

The announcement was made by the assistant chief of the National Department of Planning, Luis Bernardo Florez, who indicated that this will be the only adjustment in this year's revenue and spending program that will be submitted to the highest tribunal for administrative disputes for its consideration.

The budget for this fiscal year, which was set at 972.475 billion pesos, calls for a deficit of 220 billion pesos.

Of the initial readjustment of 45 billion pesos, 22 billion will be channeled toward rehabilitation projects, and 8 billion toward the interest and principal payments on the foreign debt contracted by enterprises that generate electricity.

The remaining 15 billion pesos will be earmarked for spending in the Defense, Justice, Education, and Labor Ministries, in addition to the Police and the Office of the President of the Republic.

The additional 45 billion pesos will come from the funds available to the central administration, especially those derived from the budget surplus of 1986.

Financing Bill

To meet the 220-billion-peso shortfall in the 1987 budget, the government will introduce a financing bill for some 175 billion pesos during the regular session of Congress.

These funds will be obtained through a currency issue by the Bank of the Republic, and through foreign credit.

One of the alternatives that will not be used on this occasion is to float National Savings Bonds (TAN), given that the management of this domestic indebtedness instrument has become complicated.

In the first 3 months of the year, TANs have lost popularity on the national financial market, which has weakened the amortization fund of these papers.

The deficit in the administration of the TANs has reached 8.5 billion pesos, which the General Comptrollership of the Republic says will have to be made up by the national budget.

No Abuse

Unlike 1986 and previous years, this year the government has announced that it will not "abuse" the request for authorization by the Council of State to add to the central budget.

This situation had led to a confrontation between these two branches of government.

In the last year, the executive proposed 13 additions to the Council of State; 5 were approved, 4 were not studied, and 1 was rejected.

The investments for the National Rehabilitation Plan are estimated at 78 billion pesos for 1987.

Of that amount, 14 billion pesos will come from loans extended by the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank.

8926

CSO: 3348/303

STREAMLINING OF IMPORT-EXPORT PROCESS ADVOCATED

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 1 May 87 p 9A

[Text] Bogota—New actions in different fields, including the streamlining of procedures for importing and exporting, were urged by business associations under the Efficient Colombia program.

At a seminar organized by the coordinators of the campaign launched by EL ESPECTADOR, Caracol, and the Bogota Chamber of Commerce, the presidents of the National Association of Industrialists, the National Federation of Businessmen (FENALCO), and the Popular Colombian Association of Industrialists put forth their proposals for cutting red tape and improving the efficiency of public administration.

The president of FENALCO, Juan Martin Caicedo Ferrer, proposed an 8-point plan of action for Efficient Colombia. The points emerged from a survey that had been conducted by the businessmen's organization.

For the purpose of eliminating the red tape involved in bringing goods into the country through Customs, he proposed that procedures be systematized by implementing a model process, that the verification and systems sections be regrouped, that officials receive training, that a systematic "route sheet" program be implemented to keep track of procedures, and that the Customs system be revamped.

He also suggested that permanent appraisers be assigned to Customs warehouses and Customs zones, that legislative provisions on this subject be disseminated, that all information on foreign trade by related state entities be coordinated, and that a manual of procedure for urgent processing be drafted.

Streamline Imports

The president of the businessmen indicated that another immediate goal is to streamline and simplify the paperwork and requirements imposed by foreign trade officials for the approval of import licenses.

Specifically, he proposed that a single import form be adopted, that the codification used by the Colombian Foreign Trade Institute (INCOMEX) be

standardized and systematized, that clear and precise rules be laid down, that the receipt of documents be made more systematic, and that the import board adopt standard criteria for approving licenses.

Caicedo Ferrer complained that procedures for registering or renewing a trademark take 5 years, and that in practice it takes just as long to renew a patent as it does to take one out for the first time.

Today, he noted, it would take the Superintendency of Industry and Trade 14 years to renew all the trademarks in the country, and by that time 64 percent of the patents would have expired.

He stated that the Cartagena Agreement Board should be asked to modify the decision setting a 5-year term for trademarks, extending it to 10 or 15 years. He also indicated that an electronic data bank for the Superintendency of Industry should be created, that the trademark registry should be systematized, and that excessive turnover of personnel in government offices should be eliminated.

With regard to health registrations, he asserted that the Health Ministry imposes myriad requirements and documentation for obtaining licenses for foods, liquors, domestic items, and other goods.

He suggested that licensing be decentralized in the various sections of the Health Ministry, that product testing be delegated to private laboratories, and that procedures be systematized.

Eliminate Tax Annexes

Taking advantages of the special powers granted by Law 75 of 1986, the spokesman for organized business urged that the annexes on deductions be eliminated and replaced with certificates signed by company auditors, that the income tax return be reduced to a form submitted to officials, that the annual sales tax statement be eliminated in favor of submitting only certificates, and that the issuance of tax receipts be streamlined.

Caicedo Ferrer complained that few sectional magistrates are familiar with Decree 1932 of 1986, issued by Chief Magistrate Julio Cesar Sanchez, which is supposed to streamline procedures for obtaining business licenses.

He also said it would be a good idea to eliminate the sales agent licenses required by the Superintendency of Industry for people who make sales, because he argued that they serve no purpose and that "you can't conspire against the right to work."

Finally, the FENALCO president called for the elimination of the registration of open credit sales with the Superintendency of Industry for establishments that do not provide financing, and that documentation be facilitated for those that do.

Broaden Silence

The Bogota manager of the National Association of Industrialists, Miguel Ricarute, asserted that Efficient Colombia has already achieved one of its goals, raising national awareness of the need to improve public administration with a view to social well-being.

He called for extending these actions to sensitive areas of citizen action in order to work toward eradicating unemployment, insecurity, and defenselessness in the country.

8926

CSO: 3348/303

ECONOMIC, SOCIAL PLANNING SYSTEM CRITICIZED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 4 May 87 p 7F

[Article by German Navarrete]

[Text] The Labor Ministry warned that the country's economic and social policy is "totally disorganized, to the detriment of national development," and stated that the development of productivity in Colombia "requires the strengthening of long-term planning to avoid short-sighted programs that aim at mere temporary adjustments, dictated by externally-imposed conditions and the vagaries of the foreign market."

These ideas were expressed to the National Labor Council by Pedro Eugenio Lopez Salazar. Lopez Salazar, who represented the Labor Ministry at that gathering, is chief of the Office of Planning in that ministry. An economist, he is also chairman of the National Productivity Committee of the Council, which was formed to study matters related to technology, relative cost-prices, employment, and overall policy in the sector.

This expert's statistical studies on the country's labor situation have been praised by the International Labor Organization, the National Employment Service (SENALDE), and various foreign missions. He gave a speech before the Council, which includes the National Association of Industrialists (ANDI), the National Federation of Businessmen (FENALCO), the Association of Colombian Farmers (SAC), the Colombian Association of Small Industries (ACOPI), National Planning, and the democratic labor confederations Union of Colombian Workers (UTC), Confederation of Colombian Workers (CTC), and General Confederation of Labor (CGT), and made the following remarks:

"It is imperative that state activity focus on diagnosis, on formulating long-term policies, and on consulting national interests with respect to agriculture-livestock and industrial production.

"It must also emphasize new technologies, the reactivation of the domestic market from the standpoint of demand and the basic conditions of the infrastructure (public works, transportation, and storage centers), the effective delivery of public services, the reorientation of education policies toward scientific and technological advancement, in complete harmony with the different economic sectors' demand for labor, and the orientation of capital

and financial resources obtained abroad, negotiated on terms favorable to the country, toward these ends."

Strengthen SENALDE

Lopez Salazar stated that to reduce unemployment in Colombia, "those sectors which use modern technologies that are compatible with the generation of employment must be given incentives." He also stated:

"SENALDE should be strengthened in order to ensure greater effectiveness in the job placement, and in particular to enable transfers of manpower from one sector to another, seeking to employ idle labor through the utilization of appropriate technologies.

"Any productivity development project implies the training and retraining of manpower, an activity which should be carried out by the SENA and the educational entities of the state. These entities will have to begin restructuring their training programs as a function of the adopted technologies.

"In keeping with the desire to boost productivity, it is vitally important that stability be guaranteed. For this purpose, it is recommended that the Labor Reform Commission be reactivated to review legislation, and at the same time that the monitoring and control mechanisms of the Ministry of Labor and Social Security be strengthened so as to guarantee the normal development of labor-management relations."

8926

CSO: 3348/303

NO CHANGES SEEN IN DOMESTIC COFFEE PRICES

Medellin EL COLOMBIANO in Spanish 1 May 87 pp 1-A, 3-A

[Article by Hermogenes Ardila]

[Text] Bogota (COLPRENSA)--A change in the domestic coffee price was indefinitely postponed due to the progressive recovery of foreign coffee prices.

The National Committee of Coffee Growers felt that the conditions are still not right to change the purchase price of the product (41.25 pesos). They wanted to wait a few more days to make a decision based on the needs of the country.

The minister of finance, Cesar Gaviria Trujillo, said that talks will continue with the coffee growers to reconcile the interests of the producers and the National Coffee Fund.

Consequently, the domestic price will remain at 41.25 pesos, 35.25 payable in cash and 6 with a TAC [Coffee Savings Bond].

Gaviria Trujillo said at the end of the committee meeting that a new purchase price will be established based on the possibilities of the National Coffee Fund and the country's foreign financing needs.

The minister explained that there is no agreement yet with the producers. There have simply been talks and an exchange of ideas.

He stated that foreign coffee prices are favorable. It is necessary to continue observing the behavior of coffee prices in order to avoid a mistake in the immediate future.

Gaviria Trujillo said that the prices the growers are receiving can be maintained for now.

It was learned that a change in the domestic price will be decided around the middle of May if favorable conditions on the foreign market continue.

The minister said that there has been progress in the design of mechanisms that will compensate for elimination of the TAC in the future. However, he refrained from giving any details.

The minister stated: "That is one of the proposals of the coffee growers but everything depends on how the international market behaves, at least the government's considerations in a negotiation like this."

He added: "If the foreign price remains within the range agreed on in the international market--between \$1.20 and \$1.40--it is not necessary to make a decision that will hurt the income of the coffee growers."

He explained that if it goes below these levels, conditions arise that are incompatible with good management of the economy and preservation of the resources of the National Coffee Fund.

Meeting

Meanwhile, the general manager of the National Federation of Coffee Growers, Jorge Cardenas Gutierrez, ruled out the possibility that Colombia will attend the meeting of producer countries in Guatemala on 4 May.

He explained: "Colombia excused itself from attending the Guatemalan conference because it is better to hold a Central American meeting with other countries that export mild coffee. An evaluation should be made within the group. It should establish its positions and later dialogue directly with us and Brazil."

Cardenas revealed that Brazil will not attend the meeting either.

The meeting of producer countries in Central America and Africa with Colombia and Brazil might be held at the beginning of June.

The conclusions of the Guatemalan meeting where a series of strategies to try to regulate the market will be studied will be considered.

The objective of the Colombian coffee authorities is to return to the quota system before next October. It is the best mechanism to maintain a stable price range.

Cardenas said that Colombia refused the invitation to go to Guatemala so it would not create expectations in the world coffee market.

The general manager said: "The behavior of the market is good at this time. It is better not to attend the meeting."

Increase

In the last 4 days, Colombian coffee has gained four points on the international market.

Prices increased from \$1.15 to \$1.19. According to forecasts, these prices might be surpassed in the next few days.

The recovery of prices is the result of revitalization of world consumption, a reduction in stocks, and preventive measures by producer countries to not let their stocks deteriorate.

A pound of Colombian coffee approached \$1.20 yesterday. In the last half of March, it was \$1.02.

7717

CSO: 3348/305

DECREASE REPORTED IN COFFEE STOCKS

Medellin EL COLOMBIANO in Spanish 3 May 87 p 7A

[Article by Orlando Cano Vallejo]

[Text] Bogota (COLPRENSA-LA REPUBLICA)--Colombian coffee stocks went down 2 million sacks between September 1986 and March 1987.

Officials of FEDECAFE [National Federation of Coffee Growers] revealed that the country's real inventories total 8.3 million 60-kilo sacks. At the same time, they vehemently denied the statements of exporter Gustavo Gaviria Gonzalez that stocks are being "made up."

Last September, stored coffee reserves totaled 10.3 million sacks based on statistics verified by the OIC [International Coffee Organization].

In December 1986, 10.1 million sacks of coffee were stored in the Almacafe warehouses.

At the end of February 1987, stocks totaled 8,586,000 sacks. However, the calculations of the general manager of FEDECAFE, Jorge Cardenas Gutierrez, indicated a volume of more than 9.3 million 60-kilo sacks during that same period.

Rotation

Alvaro Villegas, assistant manager of planning for FEDECAFE, attributed the reduction in stocks to the country's rotation of fresh and stored coffee.

He explained that due to the decrease in the coffee harvest, there has been a reduction in inventories.

He added that the coffee accumulated in warehouses and cooperatives has made it possible to have 2 million 60-kilo sacks for the domestic market.

He emphasized that if the requirements and availability in Colombia total more than 11.5 million sacks and production only reaches 10 million, then it is necessary to withdraw part of the stocks to meet that shortage.

In the last 6 months, the availability of stored coffee in Colombia has gone down by 2 million 60-kilo sacks.

From December 1986 to March 1987, the decrease was about 1.8 million 60-kilo sacks.

Exports

Mr Alvaro Villegas reported that coffee exports for March reached 800,000 sacks, fulfilling the predictions made at the beginning of this year by authorities of the sector.

Referring to the international market, he said that Colombia has never participated in the futures market. He stated that coffee prices on the futures market pertain to the mild Central American coffees.

He explained that when a coffee price is recorded for May or July, it refers to other mild Central American coffees.

Mr Villegas stated: "Our country is studying the possibility of participating in the futures market due to the effect these contracts have on coffee trade."

At the end of 1986, Colombian stocks rose to 9.9 million 60-kilo sacks compared to 46.4 million in all the producer countries.

As FEDECAFE's statistical chart on the 1985-86 World Coffee Balance shows, Colombia had initial reserves of 11.5 million sacks, 23 percent of the world volume which is about 48.7 million 60-kilo sacks.

During that period, the consumer countries that belong to the OIC had an initial stock of 3.4 million sacks. Total production was 85.8 million of which 11.9 million came from Colombia.

7717

CSO: 3348/305

NEW COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS BUILT FOR EL CERREJON

Cali EL PAIS in Spanish 28 Apr 87 p B-6

[Text] Lister Blackstone de Colombia S.A. has designed and is now in the process of manufacturing a new energy system for the microwave communications network of the railway that carries coal from El Cerrejon mine to the export port.

This system consists of three containers, each of which has two 25-kilowatt electrical plants inside that work continually, automatically relieving each other every 7 days based on a signal that a programming clock sends.

The control panel for the system also has alarms which constantly oversee the functioning of the engines and the generators, sending signals by telemetry to a control center located several kilometers away. The operator there receives information on lubricating oil pressure, engine temperature, voltage, frequency, engine speed, fuel level, etc.

These dual energy systems will operate unattended. There is an additional oil tank which permits the engines to work steadily for 2,000 hours. At the end of this period, the necessary maintenance work will be done.

There are many applications for this "containerized" equipment, mainly in remote areas where basic or emergency energy is needed.

It should be pointed out that the manufacture of these systems in the country with completely Colombian designs and manpower has replaced present and future imports of this type of equipment.

7717

CSO: 3348/310

CARBOCOL TO SELL INTEREST IN EL CERREJON

Medellin EL COLOMBIANO in Spanish 4 May 87 p 2-A

[Text] Bogota (COLPRENSA)--The president of CARBOCOL [Colombian Coal, Inc.], Oscar Mejia Vallejo, confirmed yesterday that the state enterprise has contacted Japanese and Spanish companies about selling 49 percent of its shares in the northern part of El Cerrejon.

However, the official told COLPRENSA that "there is nothing concrete" so far. He refrained from stipulating which enterprises proposals had been made to.

He said: "So far formal negotiations have not begun. We hope to hire a top-level international bank to do a study on the condition of the project. This will give it credibility for potential partners."

According to Mejia, if things go well, the sale of part of CARBOCOL's shares in the coal mines north of La Guajira could be finalized by the end of 1987.

The president of CARBOCOL recalled that the enterprise has invested \$1.6 billion in El Cerrejon Norte.

Although 49 percent of that figure is \$784 million, he declined to state how much the state enterprise will ask for the sale of a portion of its share in the coal complex.

Half of El Cerrejon Norte belongs to the multinational Exxon through INTERCOR.

7717

CSO: 3348/310

LONG-TERM DANGERS OF UNEMPLOYMENT VIEWED

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 5 May 87 p 2A

[Editorial]

[Text] The figures on growing unemployment released by the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) are disturbing. They are both disturbing and contradictory, because it is as if someone were trying to conceal an adverse situation that is hitting Colombians directly in the pocketbook. This situation will ultimately point to social unrest, incidentally dealing a low blow to the policy of eradicating dire poverty into which President Barco has poured so much energy. In any event, if the statistics reveal this in all their crudity, it will not take much to convince a shrewd public opinion of the difficulty of the situation, or of the consequences that will result from this adversity if the upward trend continues.

The statistics show that unemployment climbed from 12.5 percent to 13.4 percent at the end of March. Unemployment went up in Bogota and Barranquilla, for example, although it did dip slightly in Medellin. But in general terms, the country is still caught up in this maelstrom, and there is no reason to expect a favorable outcome. A short time ago the president of the National Association of Industrialists (ANDI) asserted that things were going well for Colombian industry, but not for the country. In social terms, this means that capital is becoming increasingly concentrated in the hands of a few, while the majority of people are becoming poorer. It also means that the distribution of the GDP is taking place on the same inequitable terms as the industrial process and its profits. Apparently, this will have individual repercussions only, in that a handful will prosper while the majority go bankrupt. But we must not harbor any illusions. The economy of nations is a system of communicating vessels, and wherever consumer buying power is eroded, sooner or later industry will go into a recession. One of the principal symptoms of this process of deterioration is, precisely, unemployment. Thus, the figures released by the DANE should serve as a warning, an omen of what is to come if we continue traveling down this path.

Many hopes have been placed in the policy of eradicating dire poverty. And it should begin, logically, with finding jobs for the majority of unemployed Colombians. The sums allocated for this purpose are astronomical, and so far

no one knows for certain where they will come from. The collapse of the foreign price of coffee is not a positive point of reference to bolster any high hopes. It is very true that so far the economic consequences have not yet been felt very strongly, but the world coffee market has so many assumptions and contradictions that the best policy appears to be to proceed with caution. We are confident that the government will know what its sensitive point is, where its Achilles' heel lies. Meanwhile, there is no reason for high hopes. We should think, rather, about the possible consequences of unemployment, and about how its specter will no doubt continue to dim the prospects for public order.

Unemployment in the countryside has a direct effect on unemployment in the big city, and it, in turn, is the result of the lack of rural jobs. Consequently, demographic pressure is felt primarily in the major urban centers: Bogota, Medellin, Cali, Cartagena, Barranquilla, Bucaramanga. We must not forget that this great army of the unemployed is the leavening of a great social ferment, and that at any time it could interfere with national policy decisions in an uncontrolled way. The current administration should take all of this into consideration so that its effort to eradicate dire poverty will not remain mere rhetoric, and so that a new social frustration will not throw more fuel on the fire of social unrest. The government's forecasts would suggest this. But the facts are stubborn.

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CSO: 3348/303

FORMER OFFICIALS, BLAIZE, COMMENT ON DIFFERENCES

Blaize Radio Address

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 16 Apr 87 pp 1, 3

[Text]

THE New National Party government will continue with "vigour and enthusiasm," according to Prime Minister Blaize.

In his radio address on Monday night which officially announced the resignation of three-government ministers he indicated that his administration will continue to push on.

Former Legal Affairs Minister Dr. Francis Alexis, and Education Minister George Brizan resigned after they were told to do so or apologise for their criticisms of government's retrenchment plan and the dealings with three trade unions on negotiations, in parliament last week. Tillman Thomas, a parliamentary secretary, fol-

lowed in solidarity.

Mr. Blaize said the resignations came as no surprise. He accused the two ministers of "abrogating the long-established principle of cabinet collective responsibility" which "obviously could not be tolerated."

The Prime Minister said the ministers have treated the issue of retrenchment with a "high-degree of emotionalism" and made it a "political issue." He said; "This political posturing is most unfortunate in light of what is known to the ministers." Mr. Blaize said in his national broadcast that the government was forced to borrow money to pay public sector employees in November, December, February and March.

"Retrenchment in the public service is not a matter of choice, it is a need; an absolute ne-

cessity for the country to survive. We very much regret having to pursue it, but there is no viable alternative," Mr. Blaize said. "The government is deeply concerned about the high level of unemployment."

Giving what he said were "the facts," P.M. Blaize said; "We have created approximately 8,000 jobs in the last two years. We have provided the atmosphere for the creation of still more in building and construction, manufacturing and tourism. We are committed to improving our performance in this area, and we have already, as is well known, granted licenses for development and consequently job opportunities for (around this country)."

Mr Blaize said the government already has in progress "training and placement programmes" and are fur-

ther negotiating further training programme.

Speaking about the long drawn-out negotiations with three trade unions, Mr Blaize said government is "ready and willing" to come to an agreement within the "limits of public finances."

The three resignations is the fifth to have taken place from the NNP government following the party's resounding 14-1 victory at the polls in December 1984. They follow that of former junior minister Kenny Lalsign and Phinsley St. Louis, who is now opposition leader.

The NNP is an amalgamation of three parties, but the resignations now effectively takes away Alexis' Grenada Democratic Movement and Brizan's New Democratic Party from the coalition with Blaize's Grenada National Party.

Alexis, Brizan, Thomas Statement

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 16 Apr 87 p 8

[Text] The following is the full text of a statement released to the press by Dr Francis Alexis, George Brizan and Tillman Thomas after they resigned from the government this week.

We joined in what we intended to be a political party of national unity in 1984 to reconcile our Grenadian people and improve the economic well-being of all our people.

In that context we always stood ready to serve wherever we were posted in the ministries. We enjoyed working with our colleagues in the ministries. We did our best to develop our respective ministries, and thereby to

bring a better life to all. The question whether we succeeded in our efforts is a matter on which you, our people, have to sit on judgment.

In particular, our most pressing concern was to increase job opportunities for our people and reduce the prevailing unacceptably high level of unemployment. We felt that all relevant national resources be mobilised towards this end.

RETRENCHMENT

The sending home of larger numbers of workers from Government, especially over a short time, would run directly counter to our desire to increase job opportunities.

Retrenchment in the public sector on a large scale cannot be justified in economic, social or human terms except on a certain assumption. This is that those being retrenched, or a good many of them, would be retrained for other work, particularly on special projects and in the private sector. This requires that the private sector be ready, able and willing to absorb those being retrenched in the public sector.

But there is no chance of that happening just now. The private employers are very far from being ready and able to take on the 1,800 workers Government is planning to retrench.

We have therefore felt morally bound in conscience to oppose retrenchment.

REFUSAL TO NEGOTIATE

Furthermore, the Government is failing to negotiate properly with the public sector trade unions over salary and other conditions of work for public officers. This "not one cent more" attitude is clearly apt to provoke unnecessary confrontation with those unions. This will not advance the cause of peace and progress in our society.

But we cannot remain in the government and yet oppose the Government.

The Government is clearly bent on its retrenchment plan and its refusal to negotiate with the public sector unions. We cannot possibly accept those policies.

UNEMPLOYMENT

In the 1984 General Election Manifesto, we wrote:

"Unemployment in the country is high and it is rising. At present, about 33 out of every 100 Grenadians who are able to work cannot find work. It is a source of social instability."

"As we step into Grenada's new future, the opportunity of every Grenadian to have a job, must be our Government's first priority. Only through secure employment will Grenadians be able to regain their personal dignity and participate fully in our society."

We believed this then. We believe it

now even more. For the National Economic Council officially set up by Government has reinforced this point. This Council is chaired by the Prime Minister himself and includes three other Cabinet Ministers, the Director-General of Finance, the Economic Advisor and several leading persons in the private sector. In its National Development Strategy 1986-1990, the Council, in July 1986, emphasised the seriousness of the situation.

This is what the Council said. They observed that "the unemployed make up about 25 per cent of the work force". They then added that "unemployment remains high and constitutes the most pressing problem to be addressed within the development strategy".

Yet, instead of increasing jobs, Government is itself now worsening the already terrible unemployment situation.

We cannot be happy when hundreds of our work people are being thrown out of work by Government itself. We cannot remain in the Government when more misery is being inflicted on our people by Government. Our calls for the reviewing of revenue-raising devices so as to make retrenchment unnecessary are falling on deaf ears in the Government.

DEFENDING JOB CREATION

In defense of job creation we stated in

Parliament last Friday, 10th April 1987, that unemployment is the most important problem to be solved in the country.

We advised that the negotiations between Government and the public sector unions be settled expeditiously, lest the nation as a whole suffer in the long run.

We advised against the retrenching of 1,800 workers by Government without the necessary retraining for them and without their being able to obtain alternative jobs.

We asked that fiscal policies be reviewed so that revenues could be raised to keep off retrenchment.

Instead of heeding our pleas, the Prime Minister on April 13th, 1987, asked us to apologise publicly for those points or resign. We cannot withdraw or apologise for what is right, proper and in the public interest. We therefore have no alternative but to resign.

FIGHT RETRENCHMENT

Now that we are no longer in the Government, we will be able to fight retrenchment with all our might.

We shall continue to serve our constituencies and the people of Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinique as a whole. We shall continue to sit as Members of Parliament. We shall continue to put the interest of our people as a whole first, well ahead of everything else.

We shall continue to keep you, our people, throughout the country, fully informed of national developments as they occur.

STAND FOR DEMOCRACY

Nothing less than the keeping of our

people fully informed can come from us. For we fully believe in parliamentary democracy. Autocratic rule has destroyed our country too much and for too long. And we shall continue to work to ensure that parliamentary democracy is fully entrenched in Grenada.

Let us all stand firmly together. Let us all strengthen ourselves as we move forward to the challenges that lie ahead. Let us all recognise that we are one people, one nation, with one destiny and one love, guided always by the Almighty.

Blaize Response

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 16 Apr 87 p 9

[Text]

The following in a statement issued by Prime Minister Herbert Blaize after three government officials resigned their post this week.

TODAY, Monday April 13, 1987, three members of Parliament - Dr. Francis Alexis, Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs and Labour; Mr. George Brizan, Minister of Education and Fisheries, and Mr. Tillman Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Legal Affairs and Labour - tendered their resignations to the Governor-General, His Excellency Sir Paul Scoon.

This has come as no surprise to the Government, nor, we believe, has it come as a surprise to the nation. Indeed, newspapers published as far north as Jamaica have been positively proclaiming that there will soon be resignations in the

Grenada Government.

Public statements made by the Ministers in the continuing 1987 budget debate have quite clearly been contrary to cabinet decisions, in which the two ministers participated, and have patently abrogated the long established principle of Cabinet collective responsibility. This obviously could not be tolerated.

The issues over which the Parliamentarians seek to distance themselves concern the unacceptable level of unemployment and the programme of retrenchment in the public service. These matters have been treated, not only with a high degree of emotionalism, they have been made political issues and this political posturing is most unfortunate in the face of the facts known to the ministers.

It is well known to the Ministers that Government was forced to borrow in order to pay the salaries of civil

servants for the months of November and December, 1986, and also for February and March of this year. It is well known to the Ministers that the debt burden the Government must bear has risen by several million dollars. This new borrowing was to meet government's obligations to the civil service.

The Ministers advance the argument that there is nothing wrong with inflation, deficit budgeting and borrowing. What they do not accept is that a Government that fails to take fiscal measures to bring its finances under control must be guilty of reprehensible conduct and gross irresponsibility in dealing with the affairs of the nation. It is an absolute absurdity to hold on to a path that inevitably leads to destruction of a nation.

Retrenchment in the public service is not a matter of choice; it is a need, an absolute necessity for the

country to survive. We very much regret having to pursue it but there is really no viable alternative.

The Government remains deeply concerned about the high level of unemployment. Let us however, get the facts straight. We have created approximately 8000 jobs in the last two years. We have provided the atmosphere for the creation of still more in building constructions, in manufacturing (garment), tourism.

We remain committed to improving our performance in this area and we have already, as is well known, granted licences for development and consequently job opportunities for Sauteurs, Gouyave, St. Andrew's, St. David's, St. Mark's and Carriacou.

Side by side with this programme of development and, in keeping with our promise to train those who are being retrenched from the public

service to fit them for new skills, we already have in progress training and placement programmes and are negotiating further training programmes. In fact we have reduced unemployment from about 40% to approximately 20%. We have not been negligent of the need, nor have we been sparing in our efforts, to further create significant job

opportunities and the level of technical training that would be necessary.

Cabinet has already made a conscious decision to broaden the areas of employment throughout the country. We have provided the atmosphere for investment; and we have approved development projects to this end.

It is regrettable that there has not yet been a resolution of negotiations with the public officers for salary increases. We stand ready and willing to conclude the negotiations within the limits of the finances available.

The Government will continue to work with vigour and enthusiasm, always to serve the best interest of the nation.

Brizan, Alexis Statements

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 16 Apr 87 pp B1, B2

[Text]

FORMER Education Minister George Brizan said the three who resigned from government this week had "no choice" but to do so.

He said that when they attended cabinet meeting on Monday, they were asked to either apologise for their criticisms of government's retrenchment plan which they made in parliament on Friday, or resign.

However, Mr. Brizan said, "to apologise for giving advice on an issue of national interest, one would have to be an absolute hypocrite or liar to do that."

As far as Mr. Brizan is concerned they had not breached the collective responsibility of cabinet because "the issue of retrenchment was not presented as a form of submission" as normal in making cabinet decisions. He said it was mentioned again and again and never submitted for "a once-and-for-all deci-

sion."

Mr. Brizan said on the occasions the issue was mentioned different views were given on it.

He was speaking at a press conference here this week, which was also attended by Dr. Francis Alexis and Tillman Thomas.

"Cabinet accountability depends upon thorough discussion and ultimately taking the best out of the discussion and arriving at a decision. When for example, the matter of retrenchment came up, we advised that we should train persons and put together special projects to re-employ people," Mr. Brizan said.

The former Education Minister said the three who resign could not support the firing of 1800 workers from the public sector because they will be guilty of a "breach to the public trust."

He said they had campaigned for the

1984 "general elections mostly on the theme of employment and quoted from the NNP manifesto where it stated; "The opportunity of every Grenadian to have a job must be our government's first priority."

When asked whether the issue was not decided by a majority decision, Dr. Alexis said; "We don't take votes in cabinet, so you can't really talk about a majority decision. The chairman has the discretion to catch the consensus." He added "If I am showing a man red and he wants to see blue, there is nothing I can do about that by the same token incidentally, if I get up and say no cocaine dealers allowed in the country and a man tells himself I am speaking to him or about him, I can't do anything about it, that's in the person's mind."

Dr. Alexis said "it is precisely because of our commitment to parlia-

ment democracy and appreciation of the need to give solidarity to democratically arrived decisions we are where we are today--outside of the cabinet."

The former Labour Minister said no research into the private sector's ability to take up the slack was done, and from the evidence we had, it could be concluded that the private sector was not "ready, willing and able" to take in the fired workers. He said he received a letter from St George's company in his last week Labour Minister telling the department that they will have to fire 45 workers, and more over a period of time.

Dr Alexis said that as far back as December last he served notice in parliament that he could not be expected to support the plan for retrenchment unless it was clear that the public sector could employ a "good" number of the displaced workers.

Meantime, Mr Brizan, who himself is an economist was critical of government's fiscal programme is expected to monitor its operations "closely" and every six months do an analysis to see if it is achieving its goal.

Mr Brizan said that he called for a review of the operations of the fiscal programme, but there was no response.

The economist said that upon analysis he had advised government on a "superior model" in which they could have retained company taxes with a redefinition of company to include unincorporated enterprises. Part of that model will also see the retaining of income tax for the higher levels of income, and the having of the Value Added Tax (VAT) as a "broad-based" consumption tax "collectable at the border and not getting down to the area of retail shop dealers."

Mr Brizan said only so we would have had a tax system which would be growth oriented.

Interview With Alexis

Bridgetown SUNDAY SUN in English 19 Apr 87 p 32

[Text]

DR. FRANCIS ALEXIS, Grenada's former Attorney-General, was one of the founders of the ruling New National Movement (NNP).

Last week, he along with Education Minister, George Brizan, and junior Legal Affairs Minister, Tilman Thomas, resigned, marking the collapse of the three-party coalition that ruled Grenada since December 1984.

In the following Question and Answer session with SUNDAY SUN reporter, Reudon Eversley, Dr. Alexis candidly speaks about why he and Brizan opposed the Government's plan to retrench 1 800 civil servants, its possible impact on the society, and discuss future political plans, including the possibility of forming a new party.

DR. ALEXIS, you have tendered your resignation from the cabinet. What is your current status with the ruling New National Party?

A: I have terminated my relations with the NNP.

Q: What is your next step? Are you considering forming a new party with Mr. Brizan and Mr. Thomas?

A: No, that is not high on our agenda at all. That is not a priority item. Our priority is to fight government's planned retrenchment in the civil service, to stave off social disorder . . . and social dislocation in the country.

Q: What specifically was there about the government's retrenchment programme and also its handling of the unemployment situation that had both yourself and Mr. Brizan upset?

A: You have to take the retrenchment programme in the context of the prevailing unacceptably high level of unemployment. We are talking about unemployment in the region of between 25 and 30 per cent.

The Prime Minister said 20 per cent (in a radio broadcast last) Monday night, but that does not square with documents he signed last July as chairman of the National Economic Council in which the figure was put at 25 per cent.

Between July and now, unemployment has not fallen. If anything, it has increased, given the slackening off in the construction sector, given what I know to be a fact that at least one or two of the big private factories have themselves been retrenching.

This has to be strange mathematics to move from 25 to 20 per cent in that situation. We therefore contend that retrenchment, and certainly at this time with this high level of unemployment, is a provocation to social dislocation.

This is not news to them. The Hansard of December 3, 1986 will show that as far back as then, I had warned that I would not be able to go along with any large scale retrenchment unless and until the private sector was in a position to take up the slack.

The Honourable George Brizan for his part, from day one, has been arguing for a programme of retraining of the retrenched persons with the view of redeploying them into special works and other areas.

We were given assurances on that too. In the budget speech delivered by the Finance Minister, the Prime Minister, he promised both things again and he said that he would phase the retrenchment to take into account what was happening in the private sector, but now the government has violated those assurances and it seems now they will continue violating these assurances and proceed with their full retrenchment and then later on, they will say Alexis and Brizan were in the Cabinet all along and went along with it.

We raised our strong objections in Cabinet, but were told Cabinet is not a place for strong reservations or private views. So we decided to come out and go to the public.

Q: How many civil servants out of the 1 800 has government sent home so far?

A: They would have sent out letters, I think, to about 70 or 75 so far and this is official retrenchment. But at the Ministry of Works, they are sending home people like mad and it is a bad situation in that ministry. It is a scandal. . .

Q: You said earlier you will go to the public. Are Mr. Brizan and you planning, say, a series of public meetings?

A: Oh, yes! We have started and we intend going right across the length and breadth of this country.

Q: Will you be enlisting the support of the other members of the opposition to fight the retrenchment programme?

A: We expect that all Grenadians will be mobilised into fighting the retrenchment.

Q: Mr. Blaize has accused both Mr. Brizan and yourself of what he has called political posturing on the retrenchment issue. I'd like to get a reaction from you to his charge.

A: Nothing could be more important to an individual than being at work and a prime minister who says to talk about unemployment is to posture politically, exposes his lack of concern for the individual. He tells the nation he ought not to be the prime minister in the first place, that he is not concerned about the individual's welfare.

As far as I am concerned, the basis of all civil governments is the promotion of a better quality of life for the individual and there is no better way of promoting this quality of life for the individual than by putting him to work.

Even if we did have an advanced social welfare system where you could pay people to stay home, as it were, in my view, even that would not be as uplifting as putting a man to work.

But as it happens here in Grenada, we have no unemployment benefits being paid out to people, so when you are out of work, that's that.

Q: There were reports that Mr. Blaize had asked both yourself and Mr. Brizan to apologise over statements both of you made in the budget debate. What were those statements?

A: We made statements regarding our feelings about retrenchment; our analysis that retrenchment in the public sector can trigger off retrenchment in the private sector, and in any event, worsen the bargaining power of workers in the private sector; our contention that in the prevailing high level of unemployment, any large scale retrenchment in the public sector could be potentially disastrous to the society as a whole and to the economy too because when you reduce the purchasing power of such a large sector of the society, naturally you will have economic slowdown with all that that entails.

We also contended that full employment does not bring on inflation because the classic definition of inflation is too much money chasing too few goods and services, and in a situation of full employment, by definition, you should have high productivity of goods which will bring on a demand for services.

We further argued that while we accept balancing the budget is important, we cannot accept that fiscal balance is more important than employment. We called on the Government to negotiate expeditiously and seriously with the three public service trade unions regarding salaries and better conditions of work proposed by the unions since 1983.

At one stage I was called in to conciliate and I was satisfied, as I said at the time, that the unions were negotiating in good faith. In fact, they had slashed their demands substantially when I got to the bargaining table, but the Government's position is not one cent more.

Well, that is not how you negotiate and if the government is setting that example, what do you expect the private sector to do? It was undermining my own position as

Minister of Labour, because if I can't get my own colleagues within the government to understand what collective bargaining is about, how can I then go to the private sector and ask them to understand?

Q: What's your assessment of Mr. Blaize's performance as Prime Minister? There have been reports that both yourself and Mr. Brizan were quite critical of what was termed his autocratic style and the lack of democracy within the government. I'd also like you to comment on this.

A: That is not a view that is held only by us. It is a nationally held view, and those who have to deal with him attest to his not being demonstrably democratic in the sense of listening to what you say and being informed by what you say.

He does listen sometimes, or rather tolerates sometimes, and I have always said this, that I am grateful to him for showing one how to be tolerant in that sense.

Sometimes he lets you talk, but you are engaging in sky-writing. He turns off his hearing aids literally, so that you are talking but it does not mean that what you say is registering and you get assurances and these are of no worth in the final analysis.

It is that attitude which, for example, provoked the resignation of (former Government MP, now Leader of the Opposition) Phinsley St Louis.

Q: What about the charges that attempts were being made by the former Grenada National Party element in the NNP to dominate the NNP?

A: Oh, from day one, they did that. Look at their high commissioners, ambassadors. Old cronies of Mr. Blaize and the GNP. Then when they chose the senators. From day one, they set out on that course.

Q: The critical issue now before Grenada, as I understand it, is a successor to Mr. Blaize. Many observers believe this will be his last term because of his illness. What I'd like to know is if the government has made a serious start to looking at a successor.

A: We know that Mr. Blaize has been trying his best to groom (Foreign Minister) Mr. (Ben) Jones. Even in the year when Mr. Jones was not the deputy political leader of the party, Mr. Blaize still insisted for him to act as prime minister whenever he needed someone to act for him.

His reply was that the constitution of the state did not require him to appoint as acting prime minister the person who was deputy leader of the party but it does not advance the cause of party politics and indeed parliamentary democracy to behave in that way. He has been doing his best to groom him and he will continue to do his best.

Q: Has Mr. Blaize made any formal announcement to Cabinet that he will not be coming back in 1989?

A: No, he never has done so.

Q: How do you see the government continuing? Do you think it will be able to last out its full term, or do you think it will fall before 1989 when elections are next due?

A: It depends on how they behave. It seems to me they are already taking leave of their senses. (Last Tuesday) on the national radio, a disc jockey played a tune called Captain, the ship is sinking, and those people in government sent the man home immediately.

I don't think the nation is going to put up with that behaviour. It smells too much of October 1983, the last few days of the then government. But for ourselves, the three who just resigned, we do not have any burning desire to try to bring down the government as such. It depends on how the dialectics unfold.

Q: How do you assess the popularity of the government right now?

A: It couldn't be lower. It is impossible, I tell you, in all Caribbean history to find a government that is as unpopular as the present government in this country. I suppose even the pre-1979 (Gairy) government was, in its day, more popular than the one here.

Q: Now if elections were to be called tomorrow, who do you think will win?

A: If elections were to be called tomorrow, I think the people would decide rightly.

Q: Rightly in favour of whom?

A: The good team.

Q: Who constitutes the good team?

A: That is the thing. We haven't seen the team yet, so we can't say.

Q: But in the absence of a good team now, who would they vote for?

A: There will be a good team.

Q: So are you hinting to me that a party is in the offing?

A: Well, I don't know. Our projection is to engage the people in debate up and down the country, and to listen to what the people have to say.

Q: And based on the outcome of the debate, will a new party emerge?

A: I can't pre-empt the people.

Trinidad Journalist's Views

Port-of-Spain SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 26 Apr 87 p 23

[Article by Ria Taitt, following visit to Grenada]

[Text]

IF a popularity poll were to be done on all politicians in Grenada today on which politician charms the people most, Prime Minister Herbert Blaize, will probably be low down on the list.

But if the poll were to determine, "whom do you feel safest with," Blaize would win, hands down.

To a large extent, Grenada today is a reflection of

its political dilemma. Blaize, is unpopular, and even his government ministers admit it in off-the-record conversations. The Grenadian people make the unkindest remarks and jokes about the senior politician, who walks with a cane and is in his late sixties. "Here comes the breakdancer," they would say on spotting the Prime Minister. And at a political meeting held in the village of Bealieu, St George's southwest, I heard people making comments on his

physical and mental prowess that were too harsh for repetition.

Politicians, both government and opposition, in fact agree that Blaize has never been personally popular, in spite of the large mandate which the government and party he headed, received in the 1984 elections — 15-1 in the 16-seat Parliament.

By contrast, if anyone were to stand up in the market-place, and shout "Maurice Bishop did nothing for this country" or any such thing, that person would be stoned to death. Bishop remains the most dominant political figure and political discussions on the street still centre around him.

"Not a day you went by Brother Bishop's house and didn't find him eating the simplest foods like breadfruit, saltfish and oil-down," one group of citizens was saying, while waiting for the start of the Parliamentary session last Wednesday. "We knew all his clothes because they were not much," they said to this reporter.

In the eyes of the public, he still remains vividly a patriot and humbly a servant, surviving even the saddest tales of unfair imprisonment.

"Man, the other day I was reading over some of the letters I write to Brother Maurice...yuh talk about beg. Man, I beg till I get stupid," said one man, half laughingly. This individual had, on the urgings of his family, returned from the U.S. shortly following the revolution where he had been serving in the army. He had been pronounced a CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) agent almost on arrival and had been imprisoned.

The left-wing cause is as dead as a dodo in that country and people tell you outright that the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement is simply "using" Bishop's name.

George Brizan, the former Agriculture and Education Minister who resigned from the Blaize Government, is well liked by the populace because in the words of one citizen, "like Bishop, he speaks from the heart."

Brizan, a teacher for the past 21 years, who, if all one hears were to be believed, taught virtually the whole of the last two generations of Grenadians, has emerged as the chief political figure. When Brizan walks the streets he is greeted by only handshakes and hugs from the common folk, who perceive he cares for them.

His decision to resign from the Blaize Government on April 13, because of the Government's decision to send home 1,800 public servants, has increased his political stocks greatly. At 44 years, with several degrees incorporating Education, Economics and History and with long years of public service, it is believed he is in his political prime. Serious, emotional, educating, he commands great respect. He insists though, he did not choose politics, but that it chose him.

Brizan is joined in spirit by former Attorney-General, Dr Francis Alexis, a son of the soil whose education was literally paid for by the shopkeepers in his community and who grew to become a respected lecturer in the Law Faculty at the Cavehill campus of the University of the West Indies, Barbados. He returned however, to set his political bucket down in the island:

"Nobody sent to call me. I take my own two foot and plant them right here," he says forcefully. Alexis' oratorical skills in using the Grenadian vernacular for "row-row" (picong) makes him a favourite speaker on all fronts.

Says Alexis, good-humouredly to a delighted crowd:

"I tell you Blaize no longer respects the people who work with him in the government." After a pause: "You feel I story? Everytime Brizan speaks in Parliament, Blaize leaning forward and taking notes. And when I open my mouth is (imitating Blaize's voice) 'eh, Dr Alexis, what is it is yuh say'." The crowd goes wild.

Grenadians are clearly not happy with the Government's plans to send home 1,800 public servants and the anti-retrenchment platforms on which Brizan and Alexis are campaigning, via a series of meetings, are attractive.

But the Government has been hitting back forcefully, urging the Grenadian people not to be fooled again by young visionaries, who believe they have, "all the answers" to quote Prime Minister Blaize.

In his nationwide broadcast following the resignations of Alexis, Brizan and Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Legal Affairs, Tillman Thomas, Blaize said:

"Grenadians will remember the night before February 9, 1979. Please don't let anybody rob you from your need to remember. It was then that you witnessed a series of demonstrations because two young university graduates told you they had a quick-fix for your problems. Those demonstrations led to the same two men wielding the guns over us; putting us under heavy manners; ending in the massacre of October 19, 1983...The choice is ours again. And you must be very careful to consider all the facts before you. No country gets two such chances within such quick time."

The call strikes at the most sensitive chord — the desire for peace and freedom and fear of a return to the violence of the past. A lot will depend on whether the Government is able to convince the population that Brizan's and Alexis' resignations are attempts at de-stabilisation, rather than expressions of concern. A lot will also depend on the success or failure of the Government's economic programmes, which since the completion of many of the repair programmes initiated by the United States shortly after the invasion, have not been providing jobs.

Oh, they will love Brizan and Alexis, because Grenadians like charismatic leadership, says Government Minister, Dr Keith Mitchell, but he adds, this time people will be wary of spur-of-the-moment visionaries.

Said Mitchell: "Gairy and Blaize could teach us a lot, because they understand the nitty-gritty of politics. The people right now would come and hug you on a platform, jump for you, and vote against you, if they feel you leading them back to chaos."

In fact, Mitchell believes that the Bishop/Coard experience has discredited young leadership in Grenada generally and if anyone has a chance outside of Blaize, it will be Gairy, having both charisma and the legacy of political stability in his favour.

Others disagree with him, arguing that Grenada's society is instinctively oral and unsophisticated and will respond to anyone, who captures the imagination. "While the chief issue is the question of peace, Grenadians respond principally to people (rather than issues)," one informed observer said.

The political variants in Grenada are fascinatingly numerous for the smallness of the island and the simplicity of its people.

There are those who have lost faith in the political process and in politicians.

"I don't interest myself in politics. I don't voting. I don't go to houses of Parliament," said Polly, a domestic working with a guest house, "cause government only changing, changing. To me all them

politicians want is power. To me politics in Grenada like when yuh renting. Anyday expect the landlord to tell yuh to leave."

There are those who though frustrated, fear any attempt to rock the political boat, sensing that violence and turmoil will be the inevitable result.

And there are those who intellectually and emotionally want something more than what the present

regime is offering. Their minds are active and they are less fearful of change. Leanna, a 21-year-old, who attended the prestigious high school, St Joseph Convent, St George's, belongs to this category.

"Something is happening. I can feel it," she said to me, shaking her head, excitedly. "Yes man, something going to happen in Grenada. I can sense it on the horizon."

Gairy's Situation

Port-of-Spain SUNDAY EXPRESS in English, 26 Apr 87 p 23

[Article by Ria Taitt]

[Text]

THERE is one government minister who feels that Grenada's former Prime Minister Eric Gairy stands a chance if the Herbert Blaize Government fails.

Dr Keith Mitchell, Minister of Works, Communications and Public Utilities in an interview, expressed the view that any failure of the Government's economic policies will rebound to the benefit of Gairy, rather than the official Opposition.

Mitchell was speaking on the political climate in Grenada following the resignations of former Education and Agriculture Minister, George Brizan; Attorney-General, Francis Alexis and Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Legal Affairs, Tillman Thomas.

"Gairy will gain now with the appearance that there is disunity in the national party," Mitchell said. He argued however, if government drummed the issue of stability and showed the people it was bringing peace and economic programmes, "Gairy will disappear again."

The man who beat the representative of Gairy's party by 500 votes in the St George's Northwest constituency, said:

"The fact is that Gairy is not wanted. Even his supporters don't want him. He is feared. But he can't still win if there is the appearance that things are in disarray, because people hate the left."

Mitchell, who was the first Public Relations Officer of the New Jewel Movement, believes Brizan and Alexis have killed themselves politically by their actions.

"Significantly in 1979, you had two young intellectuals, and significantly and coincidentally it was a young lawyer and a young economist again who told us they had all the solutions to Grenada's problems."

"They both wanted to lead Grenada, but one had popularity, the other one didn't so he had to use the other's face to get into political office and then take control afterwards. The country is going to reject anybody who tries that," he said.

Admitting the three resignations jolted the country, Mitchell believes in the long run the best thing that could have happened to Blaize, "are the resignations."

"If they remained in the New National Party (NNP), they would have destroyed both party and government. Because they were in fact using their position inside the party significantly to erode the credibility of some of us, including the PM. When you are out, then it's not so easy."

The PhD in mathematics, who by all accounts is

such a favourite with Grenada's Prime Minister, Herbert Blaize that all believe he is the man to watch out for when Blaize decides to step down, speaks of several attempts to remove the Prime Minister, "palace coups" dating from since 1985, "the details of which I will disclose later to the population."

A litany of allegations, both financial and political in nature have been laid at the doors of Mitchell, but he argues it is his information on the internal political intrigue which makes him the target of attack.

"That's why I am being attacked the most because people know I have a lot of information to give and you could say so...What you are seeing here is the final straw of events which started way back five months after we took office," he said.

Mitchell strongly denies the political movement from one side of the floor to the other by five NNP Parliamentarians within the last two and a half years, reflects the volatility of the coalition government which was formed in 1984.

"You can't talk about the break-up of a coalition, individuals have left the party," he said.

He stresses, for instance, that the persons who left the NNP came from various wings of the party. Kenny Lal Singh came from the former Grenada National Party; Phinsely St Louis and George Brizan from the former National Democratic Party and Francis Alexis and Tillman Thomas from the Grenada Democratic Movement wing.

And although he admits the cross-over of five of the NNP Parliamentarians to the opposition benches is an usually high figure, he points out that the Government, had, and still has a large majority in the House, nine out of 15 seats.

"It's like 10 persons in Trinidad leaving the Government," he said calmly.

Mitchell himself a former GDM member, does not support Alexis', his former leader's, behaviour and "remains solidly with the NNP," of which he is general-secretary.

He argues that the NNP Government is interested in justice, stability and the development of the country and that the nine remaining members have pledged to keep stability and peace in the country.

It is not that the persons who have left do not care, in fact he believes that they do. "But their personal ambitions have in fact blackened their eyes so all they can see is an opportunity of political power for themselves."

Mitchell argues that the premise for which the party got into power, the promise of stability, still remains and was violated by those who jumped out.

He argues too that nobody in and out of the Government wants retrenchment, but there was no serious alternative.

REPORT ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CITES PLUSES, MINUSES

FL271520 Bridgetown CANA in English 2119 GMT 26 Apr 87

[By George Worme]

[Text] St Georges, 26 Apr (CANA)--A council set up by the to monitor the economy says Grenada's ability to finance its economic and social development in the short term is very limited [sentence as received].

"This is due mainly to the heavy burden of interest payments on the public debt, and also to the low level of domestic savings," it said in a report.

Grenada's debt is estimated at 205 million EC dollars (one EC dollar, 37 U.S. cents) with most of it owned to international organizations and a number of communist countries with which the former People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) was friendly.

The report states that Grenada would have to depend on external sources to facilitate its social and economic development.

According to the report, given Grenada's current economic situation and the constraints on development, achieving set goal seems to depend on the themes of rebuilding, diversification, and expansion.

"The strategy emphasizes development in four directions: revitalize and diversify agriculture, expand tourism, stimulate manufacturers, promote and diversify exports," it said.

The report stressed that in order to support these goals the strategy assumes that the infrastructural development can be put in place as planned by government.

"This implies that the necessary funds will be forthcoming for the construction of major segments of the road system, the addition of generators to boost the capacity of the electrical system, and the digitalization of the telephone network," it said.

The report notes that unemployment remains high and constitutes the most pressing problem to be addressed within the development strategy.

It said that in order to implement the strategy for development, planning and evaluation units will be established to monitor performance in both the public and private sectors. "This monitoring will indicate where revisions are necessary because of time lags or delays imposed by inadequate human resources and financial constraints," it said.

According to the report, an additional 5,000 persons are expected [to] get new jobs by 1990 based on an estimated 2 percent increase every year in the work force. It says that 50 percent of this employment would be created on infrastructural development like road construction, hotels, residential and non-residential construction.

Additional employment will be created by tourism, manufacturing, the distributive trades, agriculture, and services industries, it added.

On agricultural output, the report said that this is expected to increase by about four percent annually, mainly as a result of the revitalization of existing farms, improvement in extension service, and the application of recommended agronomic practices.

The report said that in the area of tourism by 1990 stayover visitors will be 70 percent higher than in 1985 and that the number of rooms will increase from 600 to 1,500.

The report stressed that the overall deficit within the public sector will be reduced over the 1986-90 period through generation of surpluses on the current account.

On the high unemployment, the report said it is expected to remain high and will likely fall only slowly as the annual increase in new jobs will just be offset by the numbers entering the work force.

According to the report, public finances are constrained by a weak budget structure resulting from an over-manned public service and a massive public debt burden.

The council said the government was aiming for an overall growth rate of four percent yearly up to 1990.

/9274

CSO• 3298/208

DEVELOPMENT BANK APPROVES HALF MILLION IN FARM LOANS

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 16 Apr 87 p 1

[Article by Reginald Lord]

[Text]

THE Grenada Development Bank has approved half-a-million dollars in loans for farmers.

Dr. Winston Phillip of the Agricultural Rehabilitation and Crop Diversification Project made the announcement last Tuesday at the Mt. Revil Government Farm in St. Patrick's after a field trip of banana farms by farmers and experts.

According to Dr. Phillip, 85 percent of the sum is to be allocated to banana farmers for the purpose of developing their plots. He said that part of the programme is geared at rehabilitating 1000 acres of bananas working along with a plan of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Grenada Banana Society.

Mr. Paul Francis,

Deputy chairman of the Grenada Banana Cooperative Society, cautioned the banana farmers by emphasising the importance of maintaining the quality of their products. He said that with the increase in prices, some farmers are trying to market every finger of the fruit to gain more money, and this he said is damaging to the industry. The Deputy chairman said that the Banana Society is setting up warehouse facilities in the St. Patrick's area to store imports like sheaves, fertilizers and other chemicals so that farmers in St. Patrick's and the northern parts of St. Andrew's would have their need closer to them thus they would avoid the high cost of going to St. George's to collect them.

He went on to say that the Society would be starting area meetings in May and the financial statement would be earlier this year because recently the Society installed a computer for that reason.

Agriculture Minister Ben Jones, told the farmers that he appreciated being in the field with them. He told them do not exclude him whenever these tours are planned, because this is what permits him to see the needs of farmers.

The tour covered the Paradise Government farm, the Seamoons farm, Belmont estate, farmer of the month of August Mr. Peter Edgar's farm in Barique, where a fertilizer placement demonstration was done by Mr. R. John of the extension division,

Ministry of Agriculture, and Raphael Phillip and Lester Mc. Leish's farm in Plaisance, St. Patrick's.

On Mr. Mc. Leish's farm, extension officer Sullivan Alexander demonstrated the methods of sleeving and deflowering banana fruits. The team included Minister of Agriculture Mr. Ben Jones; Mr. Paul Francis deputy Chairman of the Banana Board chief technical officer Mr. Dennis Noel; Dr. Winston Phillip of ACRCDP, Mr. Orgias Campbell of the Ministry of Agriculture, extension officers and farmers.

Mr. RM Bhola, chairman of the Banana Board and Mr. A. Isaac Manager of the Banana Society were not in attendance because they were attending a meeting in St. Lucia at the time.

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CSO. 3298/208

BRIEFS

SENATOR'S SUSPENSION--Senator Ben Andrew's has been suspended from his duties. This news broke last week at the same time that Toppin was toppling. The suspension of Andrews has come within days of the fire which gutted his premises at Grenville. To date the police has issued no statement on the cause of the fire. One source told Indies Times that Andrews was said to have been over using government gas. Senator Andrews has been the centre of much controversy over the importation of goods into the country. He is said to have had numerous clashes with customs officials. The Government is yet to give any details for the Senator's suspension. Could it be a case of just another mouse in the house caught nibbling. [Text] [St Georges INDIES TIMES in English 11 Apr 87 p 2] /9274

TUC SECRETARIAT'S INAUGURATION--St George's, 23 Apr (CANA)--The Grenada Trade Union Council (TUC), umbrella body for the labour movement here, today unofficially opened its new secretariat in modern facilities provided by one of its affiliates. The TUC Secretariat was officially opened by Minister of State for Labour Felix Alexander at offices belonging to the Public Workers Union (PWU). According to TUC President Anslem de Bourg, the secretariat, to be manned by a staff of three, will permit the organization to better serve its affiliates. De Bourg said the Council had received EC179,000 dollars (one EC dollar, 37 cents U.S.) from the Norwegian Federation of Trade Unions and the Commonwealth Trade Union Council, to be used by the secretariat over the next three years. Most of the money is to be used to pay staff and rental expenses. De Bourg indicated that the TUC was expected to take over the cost of running the secretariat after the three-year funding programme expires. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 2248 GMT 23 Apr 87 FL] /9274

CSO: 3298/208

PNT LEADER'S MAY DAY MESSAGE

Port au Prince HAITI LIBEREE in French 30 Apr-4 May 87 p 5

[Speech by National Labor Party Chairman Thomas Desulme]

[Text] In the succession of legal holidays on the national calendar, the First of May stands out as the most dynamic because it makes us an integral part of the realities of Haitian life. On that day, national productions are presented throughout the land at exhibition centers while great rallies of workers exalt work in public squares.

The First of May covers the time span of one morning, a horizon line, where hopes seem to come to a halt and which moves further and further away as we gradually advance toward it. The workers come out into the open with their sufferings and chronic miseries which form the pattern of their daily life. Year after year, unemployment spreads in their ranks; the difficulties of life keep multiplying; they become increasingly destitute. This is the sad result of a policy of turning the people into servants, a policy that was pursued entirely too long and that today turns out to be incapable of producing when the springs run dry, when the mountains are eroded, when the plains are dust-swept, when the farm fields are abandoned, when the cities are unhealthy, when there is distrust in the faces of the people, and when violence engenders fear.

But life continues to be born on our soil and must be preserved.

At the highest both international and domestic instances, voices are being raised in an effort to denounce the shocking and intolerable abuses to which certain peoples are subjected by other peoples, as well as groups of individuals inside one and the same country on the part of fellow citizens whose minds are clouded by the pursuit of gain. Adopting multiple resolutions in the form of international agreements for the protection of the individual, the creation of conditions of stability for the prosperity and unfolding of the human individual, the United Nations first of all committed themselves to raising the living standard, ensuring full employment, and implementing the conditions of progress and development in economic and social life. Aid organizations were thus created throughout the world to attain these objectives. The developed countries for their part took all

necessary steps to implement international cooperation in practice and help the less advanced countries.

In Haiti, the National Labor Party was also created to emphasize the need for the institutional setup of work as a single alternative to the unspeakable poverty that besets the Haitian people, the only alternative capable of opening the country's road to development.

Primary needs must without delay be satisfied so that wrath will not sweep away the restraints and all of the protecting dams. The Haitian individual must be taken in hand with particular attention to those who work the soil.

Real community centers must be established in each community section to provide literacy training, education, health care, work organization, recreation, and administrative agencies of the farmers.

The State will no longer keep all public services to itself but, while waiting to be relieved by the private sector, it will make loans available to producers of all categories for the strengthening and creation of agricultural, industrial, and artisan banks so that:

(a) Those who work the land, benefitting from the necessary support, will hereafter have loans to be used for the protection of their properties and their crops;

(b) Imaginative and trained entrepreneurs may contribute to the creation of jobs;

(c) The craftsmen in all communities may increase the numbers of their workshops to meet the demands of the customers who will become increasingly numerous;

(d) Health workers will find ways of using their labor and meeting the needs of their families;

(e) Artists will display their talents to the enthusiasm of their fans;

(f) Self-employed individuals may be protected against uncertainty in their careers;

(g) Trained and imaginative workers may themselves become new entrepreneurs.

By the same token, each trade must have its own organization for the workers, responsible labor unions, for the defense of their rights and the improvement of their living conditions, thus attaining the social compensation system desired by the leader of our party.

This is the task that awaits our party. On this national holiday of labor, he expresses the desire that, with the help of friendly nations, the unquenchable determination of Haitian men and women of good will, the country may--through labor organized in order and peace--at last embark upon the road of its destiny.

Labor above all!

MOP HOLDS NATIONAL CONGRESS

Port au Prince LE NOUVELLISTE in French 5 May 87 pp 1, 4

[Article by Laureore St Juste]

[Text] MOP (Movement for the Organization of the Country) ended its 3-day national congress day before yesterday, on Sunday, in the ideal setting of the International Club on the road to Freres. Delegates came from everywhere, from the large towns of the United States and of the Caribbean as well as from the nine geographical regions of the country and from 100 or so communes out of the 132 found in the republic.

It is known that, in Haiti, political parties did not begin to grow like mushrooms until 1946, ever since the distant existence of a national party and a liberal one and ever since Dr J C Dorsainvil, upset over the Yankee occupation of our land, asked us in a book "to organize our political parties." As it stands, only Daniel Fignole's MOP, among all the parties which appeared at the time, had an organization with cells, a leadership committee, library and institute, which could exercise on the masses a sort of magnetism capable of mobilising them at will.

[...] compressor rushing down the hillocks of Bel Air, rising from the mud of the Saline and of the Cour Brea, a real human tide advancing in close ranks and without violence, on a simple signal from the leader.

Receiving only two ministerial posts in 1946, he nonetheless succeeded, within 65 days, in dotting the country with medical centers, schools and at least six lycees. Ten years later, or in 1956, owing to party chief Daniel Fignole's dynamic action in the Chamber of Deputies, the party became very popular and so powerful that, already, great decisions could not be taken without its participation; for example, in May 1957, power had to be given to its leader in order to clear up the crisis, thus preventing a civil war.

In addition to the schemes of the traditional politicians who saw danger in that party assuming power, even on a temporary basis, the MOP leadership of that period lacked experienced men well acquainted with revolutionary practices that would have enabled them to take the popular measures demanded by the situation.

But 30 years have past; the chief and his disciples have matured in exile; many learned a trade or a profession, or acquired a skill or a specialty in an overseas university; the small flock of 1957 has become a huge army whose members are recruited in the large towns of the United States, Canada and the Caribbean; in the national territory, they are linked with thousands more who, for 29 years, worked in secrecy, waiting for the glorious return of the beloved chief.

Unfortunately, the idol of the suburbs of the capital, Professor Daniel Fignole, ill, exhausted and undermined by his exile, survived only 2 months after his triumphant return. He nonetheless had the satisfaction of receiving Tenor, Fedherbe Guillaume and others of the old guard, whose sons and even grandsons were raised to be devotedly attached to honor, the respect of public funds, probity, prestige, national dignity and the MOP creed.

These principles were reflected in the speech delivered by the new president of the party, the agronomist Gerard Philippe Auguste at the time of his installation ceremony. His speech was a show piece sprinkled with concerns, proving his deep knowledge of Haitian problems and showing a strong determination to bring Haitian solutions to Haitian problems. Just like the others, Gerard Philippe Auguste, who is an alumni of the old Petion Lycee where he received his two baccalaureates, has been an international expert. An agronomist by profession, he has a lot of experience, not only in Haiti where, prior to his departure for abroad, he was entrusted with various stockbreeding and agricultural programs at the district and regional levels, but also in the United States where he received a master degree in science from the Universities of Iowa and Michigan. He also has an African experience having worked as an expert in Guinea and Burkina Faso and as a high FAO and PNUD official. Let us note that he speaks French, Spanish, Creole and Bambara.

As far as competency is concerned, the MOP candidate to the presidency can therefore hold his own. What can be said about his staff other than it includes Ulrick Joseph, a former high official of UNESCO entrusted with a literacy program in Cuba; Arnold Herard and Danache who were competent professors in American universities; and others, many others, from the diaspora of Miami, New York and Montreal, from all professions and all trades, and technical specialists from all the branches, who, furthermore, have invited the new party chief for a grand tour and who are only waiting for the MOP to assume power to organize it.

Besides, this historical national congress ended with this slogan: "Long live the MOP at the helm!"

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CSO: 3219/15

IMED ANNUAL REPORT DISCUSSED

Port au Prince HAITI LIBEREE in French 8 May 87 pp 1, 7

[Article by Smith Barthelus]

[Text] A report on the annual activities of the Mobile Institute for Democratic Education (IMED) was presented to the press by Victor Benoit, Michel Soukar and Oge Branly. The meeting was held in the conference room of the Holiday Inn Plaza. The Institute was created a year ago on 29 April. The moderator, Philippe Jean-Francois, explained that renewing the dialog with the press was one of the reasons for holding the meeting. After a brief introduction he gave the floor to Michel Soukar.

Michel Soukar began immediately without a lengthy preamble: IMED is satisfied with having organized, nationwide, close to 50 conferences and dialogs after only one year of existence. In most cases, it was done with the help of young people interested in the problems of the country. Events included: Seminars aimed at trade unions and farmers' associations; organization and participation in round tables dealing, in particular, with the CBI, the constitution project and the situation in 1946 and 1957. There also was participation in symposiums on various subjects of common interests and in seminars abroad. Various speeches were aired by some radio stations. Publications included a pamphlet on organizational techniques; and a recently issued poster, "Ayiti ki demokras?" These activities were rounded up with courses in civic and political training given on Saturday afternoon for the benefit of young people.

Michel Soukar wanted to prove to his audience that IMED had been busy during its first year of existence and intended to be an active player in the political game. Furthermore, he made sure to recall that this first anniversary coincided with an "important" trip made by Executive Director Victor Benoit and IMED Treasurer Oge Branly to Latin American countries where they were able to establish contacts with organizations having the same calling as IMED. The Latin American Political Education Association (ALEP) of Venezuela, the Latin American Institute for Social Research (Venezuela) and the Latin American Human Rights Association of Ecuador were among the institutions visited by the two delegates.

During the debates, the press members were able to obtain information on a possible link between Benoit's trip and that of General Regala, a trip which they

took at the same time. Benoit declared that there was no connection and, as a democrat, he had no problem traveling in the same plane with the minister of the interior. As for Michel Soukar, for whom the situation in which we are currently finding ourselves is very serious, he was very explicit in answering a question by a sister member. For him, smuggling is not really smuggling, it is a parallel market. He made sure to place quotation marks around the word smuggling. Michel Soukar alluded also to what he called the American plan, the main goal of which is to destroy everything locally produced by the country.

Michel Soukar also spoke in details about the two camps which are said to be currently existing in the country: The camp of the Haitian people, which includes a small intellectual and progressive bourgeoisie that in no way intends to see the future of the country mortgaged, and the camp of the foreign forces, which tries to apply the vision of the Reagan administration, with the complicity of the CNG and of the minister of finance in particular. Soukar offered these explanations with the assurance of someone very sure of his position and, in ending, brought to the public's attention that only a candidate with a national program, one who came up through the rank, could spare the country the tragedy that would result from the victory of the second camp.

Other issues, no less interesting, were discussed during this press conference held by IMED which is determined to continue the task it has begun.

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CSO: 3219/15

HAITI

BRIEFS

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE--On 25 April, at Jeremie, Dr Franck Joseph declared his candidacy for the presidency. [Text] [Port au Prince HAITI LIBEREE in French 30 Apr-4 May 87 p 4]

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CSO: 3219/13

CGT MAY DAY SPEAKERS CASTIGATE GOVERNMENT

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 May 87 p 4

[Article by Adelmo Argueta]

[Text] El Progreso, Yoro--The different speakers who took part in the worker-peasant rally held yesterday in this city by the regional office of the General Confederation of Workers (CGT) castigated political leaders, the National Congress, and the president of the republic for failing to take interest in the country's serious problems and because of "the improvisational manner in which our public administration is being handled."

Thousands of progressive workers, peasants, and students began the celebration of International Labor Day with a parade which started at the "Perla de Ulua" Institute and ended in the "Plaza del Nino" with a meeting in which CGT, UNC [National Union of Peasants], and other trade union organizations made serious charges against the present government, its officials, and the military.

"We demand that the National Congress approve the bills which were presented by the worker and peasant organizations." "Respect for Freedom of Trade Union Expression." "No more pensions for former presidents of Honduras, no extensions for colonels and generals." "More effective work would be done in the Legislative Palace with fewer deputies." "No land without men, nor men without land." These are some of the dozens of slogans appearing on posters carried in yesterday's demonstration in El Progreso, Yoro.

Claudio Erasmo Castro, head of the CGT, said that this organization will continue to struggle for peace and democracy in Honduran society, and then he said, "We will conduct a frontal attack to recapture the values and national dignity which have been trampled, subjected to humiliation, and violated by the successive governments and by a foreign policy which is prejudicial to our country's sacred interests."

He said that the country finds itself in one of the worst moments of its history and that some "inept and unscrupulous politicians," who in their zeal of political proselytism speak on behalf of organized workers and peasants solely to fulfill their own personal ambitions, leaving behind true social reforms which would be beneficial to the great majorities and with preconceived plans attempt to raise a smoke screen in front of the major problems overwhelming us."

After enumerating the enormous national problems, Castro said that the CGT is calling for the maintenance of our money's stability, for a real educational policy for the children, because even though the minister of public education is proclaiming that one classroom is being built in the country every day, "the reality is that our children are receiving the bread of learning in the shade of trees and the food being donated to our children by friendly nations is disappearing as if by magic from the warehouses and in others is rotting before the eyes and forbearance of the country's officials."

He went on to say that we are facing the threat of a Central American war, the result of the control and hegemony being disputed throughout the world by the USSR and the U.S.A., which, no matter what the consequences to us, are being intensified day after day." Next he said that there is a crisis of values, "that there is no real political leader to straighten out the precarious situation which daily becomes more acute because of the irresponsibility and improvisation that characterize the manner in which our public administration is being handled, where there is no development or implementation of a national development plan containing prioritization of the principal factors that are overwhelming us."

Other speakers condemned the millions being expended on joint military exercises because they only accelerate military action in the Central American region. They demanded the recapture of the Serranilla and Zapotillos cays, the defining of the border with El Salvador; they criticized the displacement of fellow countrymen because of the occupation of revolutionary forces; and they called for adoption of an energetic policy with respect to the deportation of Hondurans from the United States, in view of the fact Honduras is considered an ally and friend of that great nation to the north.

Marcial Caballero, of UNC; Renato Mendoza, of FESHTRAL; Evangelina Argueta, of FASH [Authentic Trade Union Federation of Honduras]; and other leaders, after discussing Honduras' current problem situation, particularly the plight of workers and peasants, said that the CGT unconditionally supports the peace plan proposed by the Contadora Group and the recommendations made with respect to this plan by the president of Costa Rica.

They called upon the National Congress to legislate on truly critical factors which deserve immediate solutions and expressed their solidarity with the peasant organizations with respect to speeding up and implementing a real agrarian reform process, and as regards revision of the minimum wage, they said this has to be done on the basis of the necessities of the great working majority.

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CSO: 3248/319

MAY DAY SPEAKER HIGHLY CRITICAL OF GOVERNMENT

San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 4 May 87 p 6

[Editorial: "Generalized Criticism of Government"]

[Text] Despite the division existing in the Honduran trade union movement, there was total agreement on one point in discussions and statements during the celebration of International Labor Day: All the trade unions and central organizations of workers and peasants accused the government of being incapable of resolving the country's problems.

Another major point of agreement between rural and city workers is their rejection of the Honduran Government's foreign policy, particularly with regard to the presence of the "Contras" and their military consequences in Central America and the American military presence in our country, which has been constantly increasing.

The government's decision to jail 40 trade unionists on May Day Eve, most of whom are members of the Single Federation of Workers (FUTH), on charges of using official vehicles for organizational activities in connection with the celebration and of painting graffiti on the walls of Tegucigalpa buildings, also triggered a feeling of repudiation of the government sector.

General Humberto Regalado Hernandez, commander of the armed forces, was to say later that these trade unionists--including outstanding FUTH leaders--were imprisoned because they are communists. "And everyone knows that the communists never respect the law," he added.

One of the specific conclusions which could be drawn from the public demonstrations of the working class this May Day is that without a doubt FUTH is the country's trade union federation with the largest membership, certainly because of its aggressiveness in making demands and the clarity with which it expresses them.

The FUTH demonstrations were markedly in contrast with those engaged in by the Confederation of Honduran Workers (CTH) and the General Confederation of Workers (CGT). The CGT has a Christian-Democratic affiliation while the CTH has a Social-Democratic bias; together these two confederation were only able to rally 5,000 workers in Tegucigalpa. FUTH, on the other hand, which has a more radical orientation, assembled 20,000 workers.

That same contrast was noted in San Pedro Sula, which formerly was a CTH stronghold. Doubtless this phenomenon is due to the fact that the so-called "ORITian" leadership has run out of ideas, and recently many of its leaders--who previously were members of the cadres of the notorious Association for the Progress of Honduras (APROH)--declared their affiliation with the National Party and, most particularly, with candidate Rafael Leonardo Callejas, who was a member of the leadership group of APROH, which has a nazi-fascist orientation.

The peasant and worker federations have also intensified their demands for an increase in the minimum wage and implementation of an agrarian reform process. The peasants' confrontation with the government, given President Azcona's decision to support the director of the INA [National Agrarian Institute], will certainly soon be more forceful.

The uproar over the government's ineffectiveness in combating unemployment and energizing a completely prostrate national economy has resulted in their once again demanding the realignment of the government cabinet. "The indigent sectors are dying of hunger, but the politicians who have become government officials are keeping the people in that situation so that they can use it as a red herring [borrego] in their membership campaigns," FECESITLIH [Central Federation of Unions of Free Honduran Workers] has declared.

"This is a government submissive to the interventionist and aggressive dictates of the Reagan administration," according to the National Federation of Farmworkers (CNTC), while the Popular Organizations Coordinating Committee (CCOP) has stated, "Large land areas occupied by the contras and American troops in Honduras have halted the agrarian reform process and have repressed the peasants."

"The military economy," it added, "which has us \$3 billion in debt, is forcing us to buy obsolete World War II airplanes and other modern aircraft, while there is starvation in the country."

The above-mentioned statements are only a minimal sampling of the thinking of the organized rural and city workers in our country. It is by far a sector of great importance in national development.

The demonstrations of the working class on 1 May 1987 are, therefore, an important sign of the predicament in which the present government finds itself vis-avis the country's public opinion. Of course, this matter has to be evaluated objectively by the president of the republic and the political leaders, without carelessness or prejudice, because it is a distinct warning.

8143/12828

CSO: 3248/319

PEASANT ORGANIZATIONS MEET TO DRAW UP ACTION PLANS

San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 5 May 87 p 4

[Article by RM]

[Text] San Pedro Sula--Another meeting will be held today in Tegucigalpa by the leaders of the country's peasant organizations for the purpose of defining the strategies to be followed this week because of the halt in the adjudication of lands for "spring" planting. They charged the National Agrarian Institute (INA) with responsibility for this situation.

The peasant representatives will meet in the regional headquarters of the National Association of Honduran Peasants (ANACH) where they will make plans to hold meetings with other sectors of the state, such as the military and the Catholic Church.

Meetings will also be set up with other organizations associated with the public life of the country and, according to the peasant leadership, the purpose of the meetings is to make it known that if the reformed sector engages in pressure tactics in the agricultural sector this will be due to the central government's unwillingness to keep its commitments to the peasants.

According to the president of ANACH, Luis Lagos, the only thing the peasants have received is imprisonment on charges of usurpation, to the degree that many of them are still in prison on charges of being terrorists, and others are fleeing [the country], leaving their families abandoned. They have also received injuries in confrontations with the landowners, but in the face of this situation, the INA has done nothing.

One of the results of the meeting of peasant organizations will be the establishment of the date for joint action to recover lands at the national level, in the event the cessation of activities in the agricultural sector continues to be stagnated.

Up to now, another meeting with President Azcona Hoyo has been ruled out because in the opinion of the top peasant leadership the president failed to keep the promise made in February 1987 to turn over 30,000 manzanas of land before the first plantings of the year.

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BRIEFS

CNTC PRESIDENT THREATENS LAND SEIZURE--Tegucigalpa--The National Federation of Farmworkers (CNTC) called upon the government yesterday to implement profound agrarian and forestal reform because "if the government does not give us land, we will take it with our own hands." Teofilo Trejo Perez, CNTC president, said, "Agrarian and forestal reform is the basis for the entire economic and social reform of Honduras; therefore, all of us Hondurans without distinction of any kind must fight." The peasant leader said that the country's economy is a "disaster, because companies and businesses are frequently going bankrupt; unemployment is affecting more than 200,000 families; corruption and smuggling are enriching the minority groups that are in power; and the decreases in budgetary allocations for education, health, and agrarian reform are one of the biggest crimes being committed against the interests of the Honduran people." He also said that the cost of living continues to rise; crime has increased with the "presence in the country of thousands of Nicaraguan Somozists who became accustomed to making a living by robbery, theft, and swindles; agrarian reform is paralyzed, and there are more than one half million peasant families without land to work." [Excerpt] [San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 2 May 87 p 8] 8143/12828

CSO: 3248/319

ATTACK ON DURAZO CASE GOVERNMENT ATTORNEY'S HOME

Subsequent Beating Cited

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 Apr 87 pp 5-A, 31-A

[Text] The Office of the Attorney General of the Federal District [PGJDF] reported officially yesterday that on Sunday 29 March at 2100 three criminals riding in a black Ford Grand Marquis machinegunned the private home of Juan Miranda Collado, attorney in the case of Arturo Durazo Moreno, as he was arriving at his home.

The prosecutor's office in the trial of Durazo, the former chief of the General Directorate of Police and Traffic [DGPT], blamed Arturo Marban, Fernando Medina Morales and Daniel Molina, chief of the Central License Office, private secretary and major, respectively, during the administration of the DGPT, for the attack.

The legal official and chief of the prosecutors in the Oriente Preventive Prison, Miranda Collado, also reported that on Monday 30 March he suffered a new attack when he was driving his automobile along Ermita Iztapalapa Avenue at 1700. He was intercepted by four persons travelling in the same black Ford without license plates, who forced him to descend from the vehicle and beat him.

He declared that Marban and Medina Morales threatened him in the corridors of the Oriente Preventive Prison on the day when the constitutional confrontation of witnesses took place.

He also indicated that the defense attorney for Durazo Moreno himself told him on that same day--23 March--that his client was very angry at his trial actions and that he should look out for himself because the people around Durazo are extremely dangerous and that he could no longer do anything because his client was very stubborn and he could not convince him to change his attitude.

The legal institution indicated that investigations have already begun on the incidents and that action will be taken against those who may be responsible for the crimes of damage to private property, threats and injury, in addition to any others that may result.

In turn, Jorge Obrador Capellini, director general for control of trials of the PGDDF, said that the attack on Miranda Collado would in no way frighten the institution and the trial against Durazo Moreno will continue according to law.

He also emphasized that in case Durazo Moreno himself were to be responsible as the mastermind behind the attack on the agent of the PGJDF, "a new punitive action shall be taken against him which in no way shall violate the Extradition Treaty signed between the governments of Mexico and the United States published in the DIARIO OFICIAL of the Federation on 26 February 1980, since in any case it is a matter of a criminal act subsequent to extradition as is determined by Article 17, Section I, Paragraph C of the treaty itself."

History of Attacks Claimed

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 3 Apr 87 p 30-A

[Text] Prosecutor Juan Miranda Collado yesterday confirmed his charges about the attack he suffered "from supporters of the former police chief, Arturo Durazo Moreno." He also confirmed the state of intimidation he is undergoing together with his family, and he requested action by the courts. Meanwhile, the PGJDF will ask for an arrest warrant for Daniel Molina Miranda, Arturo Marban and Fernando Medina, alleged perpetrators of the attack on the legal official.

Meanwhile, the defense attorney for Durazo Moreno, Juan Velazquez, had himself accompanied by Public Notary Javier Gutierrez and he swore that neither the house nor the automobile of Public Prosecutor Miranda Collado shows any traces of damage caused by gunfire.

Yesterday, Jorge Obrador Capellini, director of Trial Control of the PGJDF, announced and confirmed that the physical or mental intimidation of Miranda Collado may be a warning on the case brought against the former chief of the DGPT.

Obrador Capellini asserted that Miranda Collado showed up at the central sector of the Capital's legal institution to confirm and expand his charges of the crimes of aggression, threats, injuries and blows, crimes which he blamed on the main collaborators of Durazo Moreno.

According to the story by Miranda Collado, as of last November 1986 the attacks and aggressions by the former collaborators of Arturo Durazo Moreno began through third parties.

He revealed that on that first occasion he was surprised by several unknowns who beat him with a pistol but at the same time that they said: "This is a greeting from my general."

In his statements to the PGJDF, Miranda Collado also said that his family and he have been the victims of telephone terrorism.

Obrador Capellini, revealing the sequence that the charges by Miranda Collado will have, indicated that the charges will be integrated completely and the presumed perpetrators: Marban, Molina and Medina, will be called upon to answer to the charges made by the prosecutor.

He let it be seen that there is the possibility that "none of the three would answer the call of the authorities, therefore, once the documentation is completed, it will be presented to a trial judge without the prisoners being present but with a warrant for their arrest wherever they may be." The official of the PGJDF said that "At this time the victim--Miranda Collado--is making his charges official and he is confirming them. He is very frightened but it is certain that he will continue."

He explained that even when the charges are presented to a judge without the accused being present--it is possible that it will be the same Maria de Jesus Medel Diaz of the 26th Criminal District--it will be the legal official who will decide whether she will issue the warrant for the arrest of those who Miranda Collado supposes are responsible for the attacks, property damage, telephone terrorism, and so forth.

It is worth noting that Medel Diaz is trying one of the cases that is being heard against Durazo Moreno for the crime of threats made in his methods of extortion.

Neither Damage nor Shots Say Witnesses

While Miranda Collado prepares for going ahead with his charges, Juan Velazquez, in charge of the defense of the former chief of metropolitan police, Durazo Moreno, yesterday revealed that there is no damage whatever to the house of the prosecuting attorney caused by gunfire. The automobile of the agent of the Prosecutor's Office shows no damage whatever resulting from gunfire.

Accompanied by Notary Public Number 147, Javier Gutierrez, Juan Velazquez tried to investigate in the neighborhood--525 San Juan de Aragon Avenue--whether gunfights or shootouts had taken place in the area. None of the residents in that sector could verify or confirm the incident.

The charges by Miranda Collado "will follow a normal process," said Obrador Capellini, declaring that once the documentation is completed by the Directorate of Preliminary Investigations, it will be processed with or without prisoners.

The PGJDF last night revealed the formal charges made by Juan Miranda Collado which will be "perfected for its presentation and for exercising punitive action against those who may be responsible."

In detail and in nine points, Miranda Collado related the attacks and intimidation of which he has been the victim by persons allegedly related to Arturo Durazo Moreno.

He explained that on 25 March, after finishing one of the formalities of the case against Durazo Moreno, he was threatened out loud by Arturo Marban, Molina Miranda and Medina Morales.

That same day, he continued in his statement, Attorney Juan Velazquez told him: "Be careful because Durazo Moreno was very angry."

The night of 29 March--last Sunday--he was intercepted by several unknowns who fired at him to frighten him. The following day, on Rojo Gomez Avenue in Iztapalapa, I was once more intercepted by four unknowns and injured by blows as is stated in a medical certificate." [as published]

Miranda Collado, confirming his charges--which he finished yesterday afternoon--asked Attorney General Renato Sales Gasque to exercise punitive action against whoever is guilty of the aforementioned crimes.

8908

CSO: 3248/295

MEXICO

INTERNAL SECURITY APPARATUSES OF SIX STATES REVIEWED

Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish no 543, 30 Mar 87 pp 18-21

[Article by Ignacio Ramirez]

[Text] This report was prepared by Ignacio Ramirez based on his own information and on data provided by Luz Aida Salomon, Juan Balboa, Manuel Robles, Andres Campuzano, and Isidoro Yescas.

The economic crisis is not improving: prices are going up, while unemployment continues to mount. Salaries are being given minimal increments. Social unrest is on the rise. Students, teachers, peasants and workers are protesting. Crime rates are up all over the nation.

On one hand the government has been boasting that in recent years, despite the negative social repercussions of the economic crisis, it has managed to preserve the essentials of domestic peace and freedom for the Mexican people, but on the other hand, it has been taking steps to avert a possible social explosion, especially at a time when the presidential succession is drawing near.

The government has set up its National Security Plan all over the country. With this plan, it is attempting to coordinate local and federal police actions with the department of the interior and the army; it has set up advisory councils all over Mexico. These councils are responsible for implementing the State Justice and Public Security Plans.

In addition, various "operations" have been initiated, in which the army, navy, federal highway police, and local police forces participate.

So little by little, Mexico is coming under more and more intensive government scrutiny and control.

In this endeavor, it has the following resources: an increase in personnel, acquisition of armament of Israeli manufacture, even though the national military industry already manufactures submachine guns (the first of which was presented to President Miguel de la Madrid by the secretary of national

defense, Juan Arevalo Gardoqui, at the recent Day of the Army commemorative ceremony), the incorporation of "high power" infantry battalions, patrolling and the establishment of reserve units in various states, information and counter-information plans, reconnaissance methods and offensive tactics, antiguerrilla training, and the application of new operations, such as "Marte" which has replaced "Operation Condor" in the anti-drug program all over Mexico. There are also regional operations such as "Operation Hippopotamus" along the Mexico-Guatemala border, and the "Gulf Alert 87" to train marines using war games, searching for mines, practice with antiaircraft firing, antisubmarine firing, surface warfare, amphibious landings and paratrooper drops.

From a number of Mexican states, PROCESO has compiled data and facts which reveal the police and military deployment that led the deputies, during a chamber session on 8 December 1986, to discuss the interpretation of concepts such as "national security" and "internal security."

These are our correspondents' reports.

[Sinaloa]

In Sinaloa, Governor Francisco Labastida Ochoa on 4 March publicly announced the State Justice and Public Security Plan, at a cost of over 30 billion pesos this year.

Some of the steps which have already been taken are: a boost in the salaries of police agents to 4.5 times the minimum wage; soon 150 new patrols will begin to operate, which were paid for by the federal government; the creation of an auxiliary private sector police force, operating under state coordination; enlargement of the Culiacan and Mazatlan prisons and the establishment of another prison in los Mochis; professional training for the Judicial Police, who will be provided with modern arms and equipment and with communications and information systems; and the creation of 20 Public Ministry agencies.

It is estimated that within 2 years, over 9,500 persons will be engaged in justice and public security activities.

In addition, Governor Labastida Ochoa has asked the department of national defense to intensify its operations, which are "a key factor in maintaining tranquility and eradicating violence in Sinaloa."

While the governor was making this announcement the local congress also spoke out against violence, but with the exception of the PAN [National Action Party], it rejected the army's intervention. Statements against military intervention were made by representatives of the Coalition of the Left and even by PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] members. "For ethical and political principles, we can not deny a reality, but we will not indulge in excesses," said the legislator Raul Rene Rosas Echavarria.

On that same day, 19 February, "Operation Centurion" was initiated in Sinaloa. This is supposed to be conducted all over Mexico, to provide greater security on federal highways and roads. It will be operated under the State Justice and Public Security Plans, reported the general commandant of the federal highway police, Enrique Harary Garduno.

Highway and judicial police and soldiers have set up mobile units with roadblocks at the south and north exits of the Mexico-Nogales Highway and along the interchanges of this road with the coastal highway. With the collaboration of the division of public security, they have blocked roads and highways in the Culiacan Valley and in the southeastern sector of the city. There are also roadblocks set up at various points along the highway to Navolato, manned by agents of the general division of state transit and transport, as well as along the Culiacan-El Dorado road, which crosses an extensive local agricultural valley, and at the exit to Tepuche and to Sanalona.

"Operation Scorpion," part of the anti-drug program, has been terminated. This operation followed "Condor," preceding "Operation Marte," which has led to countless charges that the soldiers have been torturing the persons arrested.

One of the most serious charges about such abuses was made within the past few days by Deputy Rodrigo Lopez Zavala, who cited General Rodolfo Reta Trigos, commander of the 3d Military Region and of the 9th Military Zone, as the promotor of "white guards" who are spreading violence throughout the Sinaloa countryside by means of provocation and repression.

There is one strange feature about this case: in response to this accusation, rather than denying it, the general reported that by the end of January, 26 agricultural camps had been checked, in which agreements were signed with the bosses to "register" each one of their guards. And that the SDN [Department of National Defense] and the state government are the ones which are authorizing their upcoming assignment as police agents.

Ismael Arenas Espinoza, president of the Eustaquio Balbuena College of Attorneys, stated that these military patrols and roadblocks have no constitutional basis and are in fact violations of several individual rights protected in articles 11, 14, and 16 of the constitution. In addition, according to article 129: "In peacetime, no military authority may exercise functions other than those which are directly related to military discipline." In Sinaloa today, said the person interviewed, the military are taking on duties which are not properly theirs, such as disarming citizens. "So they are gradually invading civilian life. After this, in what other area where the government is having problems will the military intervene in order to try to improve the situation?"

[Veracruz]

In Veracruz, as in all the states of Mexico, on 19 January a Public Security Advisory Council was set up, in a ceremony conducted by Governor Fernando Gutierrez Barrios. This ceremony was attended by, among other persons, the undersecretary of the interior, Jorge Carrillo Olea, and the deputy attorney general of the republic, Luis Octavio Porte Petit.

Carrillo Olea set the guidelines to be followed in this area. He said: "Veracruz is the prototype of a strong and complex state. For this reason it is a special place to reflect upon the threats to public security which both Veracruz and the nation face, and on the responsibilities which the authorities and society, together, must shoulder. The principal objective is to establish the bases to improve the professional standards, morale, and the modernization of police departments."

Although the Advisory Council was first set up in Veracruz at the end of the Agustin Acosta Lagunes government, it had never actually functioned. With the new administration, things are different: not only was this organization set up in the capital city, Jalapa, but it was also established in 203 towns in Veracruz, where there are minicouncils in which various police units are participating, including the judicial and highway police, the division of state public security and transit, and army units.

Governor Gutierrez Barrios, who invited General Arevalo Gardoqui as his special guest when he took office on 1 December 1986, has a number of military officers, either retired or on active duty with special permission, serving in his administration, including some of his comrades from the 1947 class of the Military College: Luis de la Barrera Moreno, director of public security; Marcos Lopez Mora, a former agent of the federal security division, now director of transit and transport; and Aquiles Vera Silva, transit representative in the port of Veracruz. There are also: Lt Jorge Luis Marquez Corona, deputy director of public security; Captain A. Nava, deputy director of transit and transport; and Raul Ojeda Mestre, secretary of finance and planning, the brother of Ramon Ojeda Mestre, former director of the Bank of the Army, as well as others.

The governor's chief adviser is Juan Manuel Abal Medina, a former Peronist leader who became a martyr to the right of asylum after the release of Hector J. Campora and his son, Hector Pedro Campora, from the Embassy of Mexico in Argentina, during the time of the military dictatorship. Abal Medina has been denounced by the Human Rights Commission of Veracruz for blocking the release of Prof Zozimo Hernandez Ramirez, who has been reported as a political prisoner to Amnesty International and to the United Nations. He has been held for the past 2 years in the Pacho Viejo Jail on the Jalapa-Coatepec Highway.

Due to the extensive security apparatus now in existence, uncertainty and a climate of concern have replaced the wave of violence and assassinations so prevalent during the cacique society of the preceding administration, even though criminal acts are still a matter of common occurrence, including crimes committed by the police and soldiers. The roadblocks implemented by the present administration are intimidating the population and keeping foreign tourists away.

Nonetheless, Governor Gutierrez Barrios feels that so far the State Public Security Plan has had positive results. It certainly helped lead to the arrest of the caciques Roberto and Justo Cabrera Sahagun, the brains behind the kidnapping of the cattleman Eliseo Granados Arrieta; of Luis Mendoza Rivera, charged with several homicides; and of Cirilo Vazquez Lagunes.

General Luis Barquera Turcios, commander of the 26th Military Zone, reiterated the army's support for this plan, "under the leadership of a great friend of the Veracruz people, General Juan Arevalo Gardoqui, a model of upright and honorable conduct."

A document of the UCISV-VER [Union of Tenants, Tenant Farmers and Housing Applicants of the State of Veracruz] emphasized: "The experience of Fernando Gutierrez Barrios in the repressive apparatus has taught him that massive or selective repression does not solve social problems, but rather causes them to ferment, further exacerbating them. For this reason, he favors negotiations rather than repression, though the possibility does remain that repression may be used at a particular time. Politicians may be placed in the political apparatus--the legislature and department of the interior; the military in the judicial and social welfare apparatus to maintain strict control of social movements. These procedures will have to be increased as the crisis continues to intensify."

[Chihuahua]

In Chihuahua, the government of Fernando Baeza Melendez will invest 3 billion pesos in the modernization and reorganization of the police forces, which will be provided with expensive security equipment, including 50 UZI sub-machine guns made in Israel.

The attorney general of Chihuahua province, Marco Antonio Rodriguez Leegi, said that these weapons cost 7,250,000 pesos, and the operation was conducted through the national security division, headed by Pedro Vazquez Colmenares.

According to the attorney general, the new equipment will be used primarily for dealing with the drug trafficking problem in the state, which has been growing. "The drug traffickers are well armed. How can the police face them? Using 22-caliber pistols? No! We need to bring the police up to an equal footing, to give our people security and protect their lives."

Rodriguez Leggi [sic] said that the investment earmarked for the Chihuahua security forces includes the payment of salaries for 100 investigators, 200 uniformed police, heads of groups, commanders, legal experts, administrative personnel, and the creation of 300 new jobs.

It also includes the acquisition of 800 2-caliber weapons at a cost of 199 million pesos; 34 guns (4,600,000); 50 A-R 15 Colt rifles (22,500,000); 50 UZI 9-mm caliber submachine guns (7,250,000); 60 bullet-proof vests (12,500,000); 65 vans--already in use--uniforms and blankets, plus 50 automobiles with armored doors, two buses for anti-riot squads and computerized radiocommunications equipment. The latter equipments costs 298 million pesos.

Also being acquired are two expert analysis labs, costing 200 million pesos; two telex systems, 15 million, and two telefax units, costing 15 million pesos.

Another 100 million pesos will be spent to train judicial and preventive police agents working in the state's towns. This training will be provided at the Police Academy.

When asked about the purchase of Israeli weapons, attorney general Rodriguez Leggi explained that the cost per unit of the submachine guns is \$145, and that they were purchased because they are "easy to handle, light, and powerful," with the backing of the interior secretariat.

"Chihuahua," he said, "is a border state which has been used as a bridge for transporting drugs into the United States. This is not a local, but a national, and even international problem. This doesn't mean that there are more problems here than in other states in Mexico. This isn't Sinaloa. We don't have a crime problem as big as in Mexico City or in Jalisco. But the number of property crimes has been increasing--crimes such as frauds, thefts, and confidence scams."

For this reason, Rodriguez Leggi considers this investment in the state's security forces to be appropriate.

For the opposition parties and various sectors of the population, though, the new arms continue to be a source of concern, especially when the increase in the budgets of the attorney general's office and of the department of national defense are considered, as well as the dependency that was initiated with "Operation Marte," with Chihuahua being one of the states in which military operations are being conducted most intensively.

[Chiapas]

The major police commands in Chiapas are in the hands of military officers, who have intensified their activities in the state.

During the administration of General Absalon Castellanos Dominguez, the State Public Security Police have been directed by the following military officers: Col Jose Valadez Varela, from 1982 to January 1987; General Hector Gay Solis, who was killed in a plane crash in the city of Tapachula 20 days after taking office; and the present director, infantry Lt Boanesges Velazquez. Directing the State Judicial Police forces have been Lt Andres Mera Reyes, until 10 January; and the present director, Major Juan Carballo.

Public Security is the largest of the state's police forces: it has over 4,000 employees, primarily peasants and natives. These agents--many of whom are used as sources of information and counter-information--cover the majority of the state's 109 towns. Two of the most outstanding contingents of this police force have been used in regions where there are agrarian conflicts, primarily in Simojovel and Venustiano Carranza, as well as in the native region of los Altos de Chiapas [Chiapas Highlands].

As a laboratory for reconnaissance methods, offensive tactics and antiguerrilla training, Chiapas has become one of the major areas of operation of Mexico's armed forces. One of its activities is intimidation of peasant and urban movements; for example, the peasant movement in the region of La Fraylesca was brought to a halt through the soldiers' intervention. The people in the countryside were calling for an increase in the low guarantee prices, and the federal and state governments had not responded to their demands. The peasants, led by German Jimenez Gomez, a former PRI deputy, organized a number of demonstrations that blocked the highway linking Tuxtla Gutierrez and the federal district of Mexico City. On 14 May 1986, in an action coordinated between military and judicial police, the peasants were removed and 36 of them were arrested; seven of them are still being held in Cerro Hueco.

There are two military zones in the state of Chiapas: Zone 31 in Tuxtla Gutierrez, and Zone 32 in Tapachula. Until about 4 years ago, the 46th Infantry Battalion was stationed in Zone 31, but it has since been transferred to the Chicoasen Lam area. Now the 22d and 83d Battalions have been transferred to this region. Under their jurisdiction are: los Altos de Chiapas, the northern area, the Central Valley, and part of the state's coastline. The 32d zone has one infantry battalion and the 20th Cavalry Regiment, based in Comitán, plus a regional military hospital in Tapachula. It is responsible for guarding and maintaining security along the entire border with Guatemala and the zone known as Soconusco.

There are approximately 4,000 soldiers in Chiapas, whose battalions are considered "high-power" units. Each of them has an arms support company, under the central command of General Francisco Sanchez Andrade, commander of the 31st Military Zone and of the 7th Military Region, which covers the states of Chiapas, Tabasco, Campeche, Quintana Roo, Yucatan, and part of Oaxaca and Veracruz.

Navy ships began to navigate on the waters of the Lacantum and Usumacinta Rivers in mid-1984, something unheard of in this region, known as Marques de Comillas. At that time naval forces put "Operation Hippopotamus" into operation, designed by the interior secretariat. Under the command of Vice Admiral Rodrigo del Peon Alvarez, this operation was intended to provide security for the region that borders Guatemala and to assist with the relocation of refugees.

[Guerrero and Oaxaca]

In Guerrero and Oaxaca the situation is similar. In the past 2 and 1/2 years, the police forces in Guerrero have changed their weapons. Gone are their old rifles and super-38 caliber pistols. Now all the police use machine guns of various calibers, either the "short" type or rapid-firing type. The modernization of the police equipment and weapons was called for by the State Security Plan, named "Renovation," initiated by the Guerrero government.

At the end of 1984 there were 1,500 preventive police agents and 250 judicial police agents working under the attorney general's office in Guerrero. This year there are 3,004 preventive police agents and 460 judicial police, plus 122 rural and auxiliary agents attached to the Common Jurisdiction Public Ministry. These figures do not include an additional 2,100 agents operating in the state affiliated with industrial, banking, auxiliary, urban and sub-urban police forces. In this regard, General Vicente Osorio Hernandez, director general of public security in the state, said that with this Security Plan in operation, the situation of the police is now better than ever before. Now they are covered under the ISSSTE [Institute of Social Security and Services for Government Workers]. They are being given other benefits, and their life insurance coverage has been increased, along with other benefits.

Guerrero was the first state in Mexico in which roadblocks were used to combat the guerrilla activities of Genaro Vazquez and Lucio Cabanas. Since that time, using the excuse of searching for drugs, these roadblocks are still being maintained at 15 points in the Guerrero territory. Soldiers and judicial police agents have unjustly arrested and jailed hundreds of persons. To date the whereabouts of 452 persons are still unknown. The National Front against Repression believes that these persons have been kidnapped or "disappeared" for political reasons.

In Oaxaca, the Public Security Division, headed by Felipe Guzman Hernandez, has requested that the executive provide modern weapons and more vehicles, a request that the division claims is urgent.

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CSO: 3248/278

MEXICO

BRIEFS

NKS EXPORTS--The parastate enterprise NKS [Nafinsa (National Financial Bank, S.A.), Kobe Steel, Sidermex (Mexican Iron and Steel Company)] has begun to export capital goods to the United States, Brazil, Venezuela, China, Great Britain and the Soviet Union. Its sales abroad are expected to amount to approximately \$1 billion a year, reported the secretary of energy, mines, and parastate industry. This company, which is operating in Lazaro Cardena, Mich., is starting Mexico along the road toward self-sufficiency in supplies needed for its electrical, steel, petroleum, chemical, petrochemical, mining, naval construction, railway, sugar, cement and other industries. In addition, it will gradually become a generator of foreign currencies earned through its exports. The company, 2 years after starting to operate, is now gaining a strong foothold. It is providing very heavy cast and forged parts to Mexican industries, such as lamination rollers, pelton rivets for hydraulic turbines, forged shafts, and vats for handling slag, parts that used to be imported. To date, NKS has exported heavy parts to the United States, Brazil and Venezuela, amounting to a value of \$750,000. In addition, the parastate firm is to sell components for cone crushing, parts weighing 400 tons, to the Peoples Republic of China, various products amounting to a value of \$400,000 to Great Britain, and parts for the mining and petroleum sectors in the Soviet Union. In 1989, when the company will be working at full capacity, it is expected that its exports will be over \$100 million, and it will also be able to replace imports amounting to a value of an additional \$200 million, at today's prices. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR (METROPOLITAN section) in Spanish 1 Apr 87 p 1] 7679

CSO: 3248/278

HOSPITAL-RELATED INFECTIONS INCREASING

Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 2 Apr 87 pp 1, 7

[Text] An increase in hospital-related infections and a noticeable decline in patient health are the main effects of the hygiene and cleanliness problem in hospitals.

Dr Julio Briceno Davila, director of the Antonio Lenin Fonseca Specialized Hospital, told EL NUEVO DIARIO this.

He explained that this situation is more complicated in that center because of its specialization. It offers the largest number of highly specialized services.

It has 17 specializations. Therefore, a large number of people come for solutions to their clinical and surgical problems. They are referred there by different hospitals in the country.

The center was designed to only take care of people with insurance--a very small number--before the victory. Therefore, it is small for taking care of the 100,000 people seen each year, the 850 hospital workers, and the more than 200 students that circulate through it each year.

The doctor explained that all these people from different places constitute a gigantic problem of infection for surgical patients.

He added that such a small center with such a large demand is very hard to keep clean.

In addition to these specific problems of the Lenin Fonseca Hospital, it and other hospitals have a very small cleaning staff because of the low wages offered these workers--13,500 cordobas per month.

Dr Briceno explained to us that the hospital only has eight janitorial workers this month who must cover three shifts. At least 60 workers are needed. Some workers are expected to resign because they will not tolerate the workload.

Because of this situation, the hospital authorities have given priority to areas like the emergency room, operating room, intensive care, and the burn unit.

Another aspect of the hygiene problem is the poor technical and scientific training that some new doctors receive concerning hospital-related infections.

The director stated: "When treating patients, they do not respect the cleaning already done. They throw used surgical materials on the floor."

He indicated that this hurts the patient because it considerably increases the risk of cross infection--that is, one patient's can pass to another and vice versa.

He told us that some measures are being taken inside the hospital to improve the situation. These include involving all the workers in keeping the hospital clean.

The medical, nursing, and service directors and assistants should play a special role in this. The medical education department should also be involved in order to better educate the new doctors technically and scientifically.

Both the workers and patients need to understand that the cleanest place in a city should be the hospital.

He pointed out that there have been five meetings of the hospital infection committee from December 1986 until now. They have made discoveries through bacteriological analyses of the operating room and intensive care.

Another measure that is expected to somewhat improve hygiene is the elimination of visits to the patients. Only relatives of people who are in very critical condition will be permitted to visit.

Also visiting days and hours have been limited. Before, relatives could come every day. Now they are only permitted to visit three times a week.

The doctor explained that the culture and idiosyncrasy of the people also affect hygiene. It is not easy to make them see that this is a hospital and it is different from other hospitals because it is basically a surgical hospital. It has been very hard to make them understand this.

He added that the culture and idiosyncrasy include the custom of relatives invading the hospital, bringing forbidden food to the patient. The people always find ways to break the rules.

He also pointed out the crowding throughout the hospital. Many patients have to stay in the corridors.

He explained that for the past year there have been at least 70 neurosurgical patients and 7 operations a day throughout the country.

Theoretically, only 40 beds should be available but, for more than a year, the number of neurosurgical patients has increased considerably.

The most common involve head injuries--encephalic and spinal column--as a result of automobile accidents, birth defects, and brain tumors.

He explained that this notable increase is related to the increase in population, now more than 3 million. The hospital is now doing 600 neurosurgical operations which is 10 percent of the total number of operations--6,000.

Based on the number of inhabitants in the country, the Lenin Fonseca Hospital should do 1,000 brain and spinal column operations. He noted that this specialization is the most complex in the country. Therefore, it must be the cleanest center in the country.

He told us that, for all the above reasons, the hospital authorities have made proposals to the Regional Directorate more than 10 times in order to solve the wage problem of the janitorial workers and the health workers in general.

He stated that there are institutions like PETRONIC [Nicaraguan Petroleum Enterprise] that pay janitorial workers 35,000 cordobas. This is close to the wage that will be approved with the readjustments.

He revealed that if that wage is approved, the problem would be partially solved. However, he was not very optimistic since the cost of products of prime necessity has increased.

He explained that the wage problem affects all the health personnel. He maintained that a wage increase will not resolve this situation given the current anarchy, prices, and supply problems.

He stated that the problem of hygiene and cleanliness is related to the national problem of the war of aggression and production shortages.

Finally, the director of the Lenin Fonseca Hospital told us that a proposal will be sent to superior authorities. Essentially, it states that this center does not have even 1 centimeter of additional space to house a gynecology and obstetrics department as contemplated in the hospital reorganization in the capital.

He indicated that efforts should be aimed at improving its quality as a specialized hospital.

7717

CSO: 3248/307

NINTH CONGRESS OF PERUVIAN COMMUNIST PARTY HELD IN LIMA

Party Congress Opens

Moscow IRAWDA in Russian 29 May 87 p 4

[Article by S. Svistunov and V. Kotov]

[Text] Lima. The 9th Congress of the Communist Party of Peru (PCP) has opened here. Nearly 400 delegates from the country's party organizations are participating in its work, as well as delegations from 26 fraternal communist and worker parties and national liberation movements, including a delegation from the CPSU headed by CPSU Central Committee candidate member and second secretary of the Tajikistan CP Central Committee P.K. Luchinskiy.

Opening the highest party forum, General Secretary of the PCP Central committee Jorge del Prado pointed out that the current congress is taking place during a significant year, when all progressive mankind is prepared to mark the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The Peruvian Communist Party, he stated, pays a tribute of great respect to V.I. Lenin, founder of the world's first state of workers and peasants, to all those championing the formation and strengthening of Soviet power as well as the peace-loving course of the USSR, which advocates peace and the preservation of life on earth.

J. del Prado noted that the congress participants must deeply analyze the internal political situation in Peru and work out the basic directions of party activity as the genuine vanguard of the people and an active participant in the political life of the country.

The leader of the Peruvian Communist Party subjected to sharp criticism the aggressive militaristic course of American imperialism and placed on the U.S. administration the responsibility for the life-threatening exacerbation of the international situation, fraught with the threat of nuclear catastrophe, the fanning of regional conflicts, the robbery of peoples in the developing states, the attempts to suppress the Nicaraguan revolution and national liberation movements. He expressed solidarity with peoples fighting for their freedom and independence.

Greetings addressed to the congress of Peruvian communists were read. Greetings from the CPSU Central Committee, proclaimed by the head of the Soviet party delegation, were greeted with thunderous and prolonged applause. In the name of the Soviet communists he presented a

commemorative gift--a rug made by Tajik master craftsmen with an illustration of the leader of the world proletariat, V.I. Lenin.

Party Leader del Prado Speaks

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 May 87 p 4

[Article by S. Svistunov and V. Kotov]

[Text] Lima. The 9th Congress of the Peruvian Communist Party (ICP) is continuing here. General Secretary of the ICP Central Committee Jorge del Prado gave the political report. He gave an analysis of the current international situation and the complex internal political condition of Peru, placing before the delegates for review the most important tasks facing the Peruvian communists.

We, the Peruvian communists, said the speaker, highly evaluate and completely support the foreign policy of the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community, as well as the changes taking place. This experience will further enrich our ideological arsenal.

Characterizing the internal political situation in the country, J. del Prado pointed to the exacerbation of the class struggle in connection with the continued worsening of the position of the working people. He decisively condemned the criminal terrorist activity of the ultraright and ultraleft groups threatening Peruvian democracy. In particular the ICP leader emphasized the terrorist organization "Sendero Luminoso", which masks its ideological Pol Pot-like image with leftist slogans.

The results of the latest general elections, which brought a crushing defeat to the rightist bourgeois parties and brought the PAP [Peruvian Aprista Party] to power, he emphasized, confirmed the significance of the progressive United Left coalition, in which the Peruvian Communist Party joined, as the second political force in the country.

CSO: 1807/334

LABOR PARTY LEADER MOORE DISCUSSES POLITICAL ISSUES

Basseterre THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN in English 14, 21, 28 Mar and 4, 11 Apr 87

[Interview with leader of the St Kitts-Nevis Labor Party Lee L. Moore by reporter Dawud Byron; time and place not specified]

[14 Mar 87 p 10]

[Text] Interviewer: Comrade Moore, as a follow-up to some of the things we were talking about last week, I'd like to hear your comments on the charge levelled by some people that you and/or the Labour Party are communists [previous installments unavailable to JPRS].

Leader: Let me be very serious and answer this categorically in words of one syllable.

I have done so before. In the House of Assembly I stated emphatically that neither am I, nor is any one else in the leadership of the Labour Party a Communist. I repeat it with equal emphasis now.

I AM NOT A COMMUNIST. I HAVE NEVER BEEN A COMMUNIST. I HAVE NEVER BEEN A MEMBER OF A COMMUNIST ORGANISATION. I HAVE NEVER VISITED A COMMUNIST COUNTRY.

Nearly every Sunday I go to church and recite "I believe in the Trinity." If I were a communist, I would not do that. So much for me!

Turning now to the Party, the Labour Party is not now and has never been a Communist Party.

It is not associated with, nor affiliated to any international communist organisation.

It does not espouse Communist policies nor are its practices communist.

I don't think any one would have called the Labour Party under Mr. Bradshaw communist.

Well those who allege the party is communist have the onus of proving that some fundamental change has overtaken the party which entitles them to call it communist. No such change has taken place.

The Labour Party believes that at birth and at death all human beings are equal.

In the period between birth and death every effort must be made to give equal access to opportunities for each human being to realise his full potential.

That, surely, is not communist. It explains how the sons of cane cutters can become doctors and the sons of domestic servants can become professors.

The Labour Party believes that the resources and the responsibilities and burdens of the country must be distributed with due regard for equity.

We do not believe that a small number of people must amass huge fortunes at the expense of the vast majority of people who though poor, must bear all the burdens of the country. There is nothing communist about that.

If Labour did not believe in a more equitable distribution of the resources of the country and if Labour had not been in charge of the country for the period it was, some people who have something today would have had nothing.

The Labour Party believes that workers must be fairly compensated for their labour. Is that communist?

Interviewer: Comrade Moore, it is often said that the term "Comrade" and the fact that the Labour Movement in St. Kitts wear red during their Solidarity March on Labour Day are some of the main reasons behind the communist label placed on the Party. What are your comments?

Leader: The term comrades came into use among workers' organisations way back in the 1930's. It is a form of address hallowed by usage. There is nothing sinister about the use of the word "comrades"

There's a stanza in a hymn in the Anglican Hymn Book where the word "comrades" is used. The hymn can hardly

be described as a communist hymn. The lines aptly illustrate what we mean when we greet each other as "Comrades."

The hymn is No. 541 and the lines read:

"We are brothers and comrades,
We stand side by side,
And our faith and our hope are the same."

And as for wearing red that means nothing. If wearing red were a symbol of communism, then in communist countries almost everyone would be wearing red and that is not the case.

Really, I believe those who accuse the Party or myself of being communist have no good reason to do so. It is an attempt on their part, to evoke irrational fear.

Many of the practices of this government resemble those of communist regimes.

They are very dictatorial. They punish those who do not agree with them. They use intimidation and terror tactics. They encourage people to tell tales on their relatives, friends and neighbours. They elevate the rulers into an elitist situation.

Interviewer: Comrade Moore, what is the Labour Party's attitude to private enterprise?

Leader: People do ask that question and I'm very surprised. The Labour Party fully approves of and encourages private enterprise. Most of the businesses in the country were developed under Labour.

Private business flourished under Labour. As long ago as the launching of St.Kitts Breweries, the Labour Movement bought shares in that business. The purchase of shares was a declaration of confidence in that business.

TDC was launched under Labour.

OTI was launched under Labour.

Many businesses on the Industrial Estate were set up with the full blessing of Labour.

Without the initiative of the Labour Government, the National Group of Companies would not have been formed.

All honest businessmen must confess that they were accorded a great deal of recognition and respect by Labour. And they made a good deal of money under Labour.

Interviewer: How does the Labour Party feel about people making profits?

Leader: It follows from my answer to the last question. If we believe in private business, we must support the making of profit. Businesses that do not make adequate profits soon fold up.

We believe that profit margins should be reasonable. We believe that consumers of goods and services should have a fair deal.

Business people should not make exorbitant profits by price-fixing which gives the consumer no real break.

Tax legislation and administration ought to be such as allow for the realisation of reasonable profits.

Some part of realised profits should be re-invested to achieve further development.

The Labour Party does not object to people making money. But the money should be circulated to the end that everybody gets some. Every person should be able to enjoy a slice of the national cake.

Some will get larger slices than others. But what we cannot tolerate is a situation where a few people get the lion's share of the cake and the rest fight over the crumbs that fall from the table.

[21 Mar 87 p 11]

[Text]

Interviewer: Comrade Moore some people have expressed the opinion that the Labour Party is hostile to the United States. Is that true?

Leader: No. The party's attitude to the United States is informed by REALISM, by GOOD SENSE and by LOGIC.

The first thing to say is that we recognise the United States as our neighbour.

That is a matter, first of all, of geography. We all inhabit the same general area of the planet. But it is

more than just geography; historically and culturally there are close links between us. We share many ideals in common. SO WE ARE NEIGHBOURS

Now neighbours may be good neighbours or they may be bad neighbours. It makes extremely good sense for us to be on good neighbourly terms with the United States.

As a neighbour the United States can help us as well as harm us. We should prefer to have her help us rather than provoke her to harm us.

We have nothing to gain by adopting a posture of hostility to the United States. Such a policy would be meaningless.

It really would be the height of folly for us to set ourselves up against the United States. It would be tragic to have the United States against us.

There is a whole lot of benefit available to us which flows from the goodwill of the United States - benefits in terms of aid, in terms of investment and in terms of tourism.

However, the acceptance of the United States as a good neighbour or as a friend does not mean we have to give support to every single facet of United States policy.

Interviewer: Can you give an example of an area where you think there might be a difference?

Leader: Certainly. I do not think that we would be at one in our response to the racist policy of apartheid practised by the South African regime.

United States policy seems to wish to stop short of taking effective action against the racist regime in South Africa to bring an end to the evil of apartheid.

The United States uses its veto in the Security Council of the United Nations to block all attempts to impose effective sanctions in order to put an end to the wicked system of apartheid.

Now the Labour Party would support all effective action including sanctions in order to bring about a speedy end to apartheid.

That is just one example. There are doubtless others.

Interviewer: Do you think a Labour Government in St. Kitts-Nevis would be likely to get aid from the United States?

Leader: Why not? Labour was in government before. And the country received aid from the United States back then.

There were a number of projects funded by USAID under Labour. I remember in the late 1970's there was a programme called the "Basic Needs" programme which was a programme of assistance to deal with specific projects in the country.

Indeed it is my view that a Labour Government will attract more assistance because a Labour Government will adhere faithfully to the procedures associated with the particular aid programmes.

Under Labour there is no question of short circuiting procedures for political reasons.

Under Labour, aid donors can be assured that funds reach where they are meant to go.

Under Labour there will be strict accounting and accountability.

I also believe that over the last several years we have not got as much assistance as we might have done because the aid donors were not satisfied either that we were working towards any planned objectives or goals or that our own people were playing their part fully in national development.

Interviewer: I'd like to have you comment on the CBI.

Leader: As an announcement of an initiative by the U.S. President, the CBI was alright. But it is common ground that the Caribbean Basin Initiative has not brought any real or meaningful benefits, at least to the smaller territories of the English speaking Caribbean.

Now, I do not believe that that is necessarily the fault of the United States.

I believe that the leaders of the Caribbean did not play a sufficiently positive role in the elaboration of policies flowing from the Initiative.

Many of them felt that the bare announcement of the CBI would usher in the millenium of peace and plenty. They woke up too late to discover that their countries had gotten nothing.

It is useful to know that some attempt is still being made to give the CBI meaning. The people of the Caribbean have got to be involved in working it out. They cannot leave it all to Washington.

Interviewer: One project which the U.S. seems very keen on is the Regional Security System. How does the Labour Party feel about that?

Leader: We accept that there should be some system of policing, patrolling and protecting the Caribbean region.

The Caribbean is being used as a transshipment point for the movement of large quantities of dangerous drugs. No single country can control this development.

There also needs to be a capability to respond to regional emergencies. The region also needs to protect the resources of the sea.

The system which will provide this kind of policing, patrolling and protecting must of necessity be regional.

Labour is against the creation of a regional system which has as its objective the sustaining in office of unpopular regimes.

Similarly, we do not object to training per se for the police force. We object to the militarization of the police force so that it can be used as an instrument of repression and an instrument to keep unpopular regimes in office.

Governments in the Caribbean as elsewhere in the free world should be at the mercy of the electorate.

The United States as the champion of freedom should guarantee the process of elections which are free and fair and free from fear.

[Text] Interviewer: Comrade Moore, in an earlier conversation, you mentioned "aid" and investment and you expressed the view that a Labour Government would attract more aid. In that regard what do you have to say about investment?

Leader: Let's face it. There has been very little new investment in the last 7 years under PAM/NRP. Indeed, given the loss of investment in the same period, one can with justification say that there has been virtually negative growth in investment.

Now, that is something difficult to understand in the light of all the advantages which favoured growth in investment.

Interviewer: Can you explain what are some of the advantages of which you speak?

Leader: Why, yes! There is an advantage arising from the reputation the government has of being the party that favours private business.

Then there is the advantage claimed by the government itself that investors were knocking down the door trying to come in.

There is also the advantage of the existence of the Caribbean Basin Initiative under which the United States provided concessions for businessmen willing to invest here.

Again, there is the advantage flowing from the legal changes made by the government. Thus they amended the law to allow for the introduction of offshore banks and other companies, to put the country in the competition for some of the business of tax havens, to allow for the registration of foreign ships and to allow for the grant of nationality to foreigners making significant investment.

They also abolished the 1 per cent foreign exchange tax on money coming into the country.

Add to all of this the infrastructural base which the Labour Administration had laid:

the investment in the education and training of people uncluding the establishment of the Technical College;

a good basic communications system;
an international airport;
a Deep Water Harbour;
an industrial estate;
the laying of the groundwork for a large tourist resort area.
the building of viable national financial institutions;
the preparation and provision of a National Plan.

Moreover, there was an advantage in that the process had already started and was well on the way.

It is difficult to find a government in the Caribbean, with the possible exception of Trinidad and Tobago, where a better foundation had been laid, where the country was more poised for take-off.

Yet all of those advantages have been wasted and the country has not attracted the investment which seemed promised. It is as if a golden opportunity has been lost.

Interviewer: What do you think are the reasons for this failure?

Leader: I think there are several reasons.

One reason is that the government abandoned the Plan which they met and replaced it with nothing.

They do not know what their objectives are and neither does anyone else. They are following a hit or miss approach but they are scoring more misses than hits.

This first reason leads to the second which was explained by Dr. Somersall when he said that all of the ministers go out looking for their own investors and they are not all saying the same thing.

This leads to confusion and the third reason which is lack of credibility or lack of trust.

Several investors have complained that they are told one thing outside by a minister or ministers claiming to have the authority to say that thing. Then when they do come

here, they meet other ministers who tell them something completely different.

People do not invest huge sums of money if they have no confidence in the word of those with whom they deal.

Then I think that the government has been less than sensitive to the impact of some of the things that have happened in the country.

In business, success follows success. Businesses want to go where other businesses are doing well. The opposite is also true.

So if a businessman stays abroad and sees that a bank can go broke and depositors lose their money without the government's lifting a finger to help; if a local outfit like Dan Dan goes under after years of trying with its promoters losing their shirt; if a major enterprise like Caribbean Shoe can fold after 10 years just like that, such a businessman may be forgiven if he thinks there is something wrong with the environment. And he will be cautious in putting his money in such a place.

Again there are some investors who do not like dealing under the table and a number of persons who have come here with interest have left in disgust because of demands made of them.

Even some local businessmen have refused to go ahead with certain investments because they were unwilling to meet the demands of government ministers which had nothing to do with the public welfare.

Again some of the government's policies have been very counterproductive insofar as attracting outside investors is concerned.

Now this business of going out there and attracting investment is a very competitive business.

All the countries of the world seeking development are in that same business.

Hard nosed businessmen assessing the opportunities make their calculations to a very true point. Significant variations can alter their calculations and upset the balance.

Under this government port charges are revised upwards without notice and at the stroke of a pen; electricity tariffs do not reflect reductions in the price of oil; levies are added to wage bills unexpectedly.

These added costs militate against employers being willing to improve the wages and benefits of their workers. In turn, the morale of the workers falls..

Industrial discipline, so necessary to expansions of investment, is seen to be lacking.

All this does not augur well for improved investment.

Interviewer: Comrade Moore, you have done a very extensive analysis of the reasons for failing. How will things be different under Labour?

Leader: O, things will be VERY DIFFERENT. Of course you won't expect me to spell out too many specifics.

Specific proposals and incentives will be based on study and review.

But in a general sense you can be certain we will REVERSE all of the negative trends to which I have pointed.

There will not be a haphazard approach to development. We will have clear goals and objectives.

There will be close and continuous consultation with business people in defining and re-defining these goals.

Ministers will not be in the business of stretching their hands under the table.

There will be clear policies which people can rely on and which will be administered even-handedly.

There will be no unnecessary interference with the way people conduct their businesses provided they do so lawfully and conduct themselves as good individual and corporate citizens.

We recognise that the Far East success stories in Japan, in Hong Kong and Taiwan are founded upon strong industrial DISCIPLINE.

We will strive to educate workers into self-discipline to promote not only peace and stability which are a sine qua non of investment growth; but we will seek to promote positive zeal, drive and productivity as well.

OUR AIM IS TO ACHIEVE THE TYPE OF SELF SUSTAINING GROWTH WHICH NOT ONLY REDUCES BUT ERADICATES THE EVIL OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND PRODUCES PROSPERITY.

[4 Apr 87 p 10]

Interviewer: Comrade Moore, we have been talking about some interesting and important matters. But I must pause to ask you to comment today on current events. Tell me, first of all, please, what happened on Wednesday.

Leader: On Wednesday 1st April, I was appearing in a civil matter in the High Court. The case was a long outstanding one and the plaintiff, a diplomat, had come all the way from London, England to do his case.

Around minutes to mid-day I saw some policemen hovering around and I got wind that they had a warrant for my arrest and they would arrest me when the Court rose for the luncheon adjournment.

I was able to send word to Comrades Bryant and Browne.

On the adjournment the police arrested me on a warrant charging me with "uttering seditious words."

The charge was laid by Station Sergeant Jude Matthew and relates to a meeting held at Middle Island on Sunday 22nd March. The exact words I am accused of saying are I believe, set out elsewhere in the Labour Spokesman.

The police took me by police jeep to the Basseterre Police Station and put me "on the bench."

I was kept for about 1 hour and 20 minutes during which time I had my photograph taken and my finger prints taken.

Around half past one, I was released on bail in the sum of \$5,000 with 2 sureties in the like sum.

I left the Magistrates' Court and came out to find a cheering crowd. I was immediately re-arrested on a second warrant which said that this second charge was also laid by Station Sergeant Jude Matthew. The second charge appeared virtually the same as the first.

I dislodged myself from the crowd and went with the police. After about another 15 to 20 minutes I was again released on bail in the further sum of \$5,000 with 2 different sureties.

I pause to say there was no shortage of sureties and I am grateful to the four persons who signed the bail.

When I emerged I was lifted shoulder high and taken by the crowd triumphantly through the streets of Basseterre.

I was impressed by the spontaneous response of the crowd and by the number of school children and young people who participated.

Interviewer: How did you react to the news that the police had come to arrest you?

Leader: Very calmly, thank God. At the Supreme Court I gave over my robes and other belongings to Comrade Byrant and I walked jovially with the police to their jeep.

I wish to state that the police treated me at all times with civility, dignity and respect and I have no complaint against the police generally.

Interviewer: Comrade Moore, why do you think you were arrested?

Leader: On the face of it, the reason is given in the charges set out in the warrants.

But clearly you don't accept that as the real reason and as a matter of fact, neither do I.

I believe the police arrested me on the orders of the ruling politicians.

For 7 years they have wanted to arrest me and threatened to arrest me. They finally decided to make the move on April 1st.

I believe the choice of date was significant. They chose All Fools' Day so that when people heard the news, they would not believe. This in fact happened in many instances.

However, enough people believed to make the response I referred to above.

I believe that the government arrested me for a number [as published].

In the first place, I believe it is an action born out of desperation in the face of their total incompetence.

The country is in deep trouble.

The economy is in crisis.

Our historic government holds a world record for the number of enterprises it has seen shut down; the government has proved impotent and irrelevant.

Support for the government is being eroded at a rapid rate and the members of the government are frightened at the realization that power is slipping away from them.

They do what all repressive governments know how to do best. They look for scapegoats, blame them for their troubles and seek to harass them.

This leads to the second reason. Since the government does not know what to do and since it has lost and continues to lose the moral authority to govern and since it has to resort to naked force, it needs an excuse for doing so.

So it is seeking to provoke a state of emergency to give itself unfettered power. The people must frustrate this evil intention.

Thirdly, I said at a recent public meeting that the government is afraid of me and their arrest of me confirms that.

Maybe, in the face of my comments they wanted to prove they were not afraid of me but they succeeded in proving me right.

They are not afraid of me because I have any guns or bombs or because they fear I will do violence.

No, they are afraid of my character and personality.

They are afraid of my resilience.

They have done nearly everything they could to "get rid of me," off the political scene in St. Kitts. But whatever they try they have not been able to keep me down.

They fear my simplicity and almost transparent honesty.

They fear my standing with the people. In spite of all their vicious campaigns of hate against me people continue

to have faith in me and in my leadership, thank God.
And of course they are mortally afraid of the quality of my God given intellect.

Fourthly, the government is seeking to terrorize intimidate and silence any and all who will expose their wrongdoings. They cannot face their sins of commission and omission against the people of the country.

But it is written "whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

They fear the eventual judgment of the electorate and they are looking for a way to steal another set of elections.

Interviewer: How do you propose to respond?

Leader: For myself with calmness, with caution and with courage.

I call on the people to be prepared peacefully to defend their rights.

I call for unity of all people in the country to resist encroaching tyranny.

I call for vigilance. We propose to start the process of preparation by staging a peaceful march on Saturday.

We have applied to the police for permission and I am asking the public for mass support.

We have a duty to bequeath to our children and to their children a country not LESS but MORE free than we found it.

WE MUST END THE RULE OF FEAR.

[11 Apr 87 p 10]

[Text] Interviewer: Comrade Moore, there is a matter which I have heard some people say is causing them concern since last Wednesday.

Because of your arrest, people are wondering if the country has now entered upon a new round of "one for one" or "tit for tat;" what we might call vendetta politics.

The PAM government people are claiming they were arrested in 1967, so now they have to arrest the Labour people in return.

If Labour were to win the government do we have to start a new round of 'locking up PAM people?

Leader: Not at all.

If you have been listening to what I have been saying since I was arrested last Wednesday, you will have heard me say that I have no hate for those who arrested me.

I am not motivated by any desire for revenge.

Indeed at the rally following last Saturday's demonstration, I said I love Dr. Simmonds. I also said that when I went home that Wednesday evening, I opened my Bible to the love chapter and read again that whole chapter - 1 Corinthians Chapter 13.

I feel that way and I am positively cultivating that attitude for a number of reasons.

First, it is my christian duty to love those who "despitefully use me."

It is demanded of me that I take my cross and follow the One who said "Forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Secondly, by positively cultivating love I strengthen myself and eliminate fear. "Perfect love casteth out fear."

Where hate eats out the hater as does a canker, love actually creates strength. Love has a force all its own.

Thirdly, love is required to heal the divisions in our country. We cannot continue this cycle.

Interviewer: I know you say you love Dr. Simmonds, but what of the police who arrested you?

Leader: I have nothing against the police force, policemen or any individual policeman. The police force is there to protect all of us in the society and preserve peace and good order.

The vast majority of the men in the police force are good decent people who want to do an honest job. Many of them are frustrated because they cannot get to conduct themselves professionally as policemen.

It is very unfortunate--morale in the force has fallen to a very low ebb.

There are of course, some terrible characters in the force. They are not policemen at all. They are motivated by considerations other than professionalism.

Fortunately there are not too many of this latter kind.

The situation in the force can be remedied but only if action is taken quickly.

In general I have a good relationship with the members of the force. I believe this has to do with the fact that I treat them with courtesy with dignity and with respect and they all say that in the courtroom, I fight clean.

In turn policemen respond to me with respect, co-operation and civility.

As for those who arrested me they treated me with consideration and courtesy. I have no complaint at all against the conduct of the police in relation to myself.

Of course, as you know, my feelings are my arrest was an entirely political matter. It had little or nothing to do with ordinary police work.

Interviewer: What is your response to the claim of the PAM people that they were arrested before by a Labour Government?

Leader: Well some of them were arrested. But it is necessary to remind ourselves why they were arrested.

Some of them were arrested in connection with an armed attack against a lawfully constituted government. That is important THERE WAS AN ACTUAL ATTACK

Before the actual attack some of them were using inflammatory language threatening or inciting to violence. But they were not arrested for WHAT THEY SAID.

Early on the morning 10th June 1967 there was shooting outside the police station, at the Defence Force Camp and at other points in Basseterre.

By day break guns were found in the motor-car of Michael Powell.

He was arrested in those circumstances. Now, one can hardly equate that with arresting someone for telling the story I did.

The Prime Minister makes a lot about his arrest. But he deliberately acquired certain lands to frustrate the policy

of government vis-a-vis the rehabilitation of the sugar industry.

Despite advice given to him by the Minister of Agriculture he was determined to oppose government's programme.

The government decided to go ahead with its plan to cultivate the land and sent a police officer to keep the peace.

Dr. Simmonds was arrested for what was perceived to be his obstruction of the police officer.

He was taken to Court and the Court ruled in his favour. But the important thing is that Dr. Simmonds was NOT arrested for anything he SAID.

Interviewer: Comrade Moore, let us return to the idea in my first question as it relates not so much to arrest, but to job security.

Some persons in the public service fear for their jobs if Labour were to form the government.

Leader: We want a modern, competent, efficient service oriented public service with clearly defined objectives including productive output.

People must be recruited, appointed, promoted, transferred etc. on the basis of merit and with regard to fairness.

If one is doing one's job properly, one need have no fear because one is critical of government.

One has a God-given right to freedom of thought and freedom of expression and the right to dissent should be respected and protected.

One of PAM's dirty tricks is to make out that Labour has some list of people it will turn away from their jobs if Labour were to win.

THERE IS NO SUCH LIST AND THERE NEVER WILL BE ANY SUCH LIST.

I can understand people being sceptical because the Prime Minister had promised 'no victimisation' but the list of people his government has put out of work is long.

There is this particularly galling example:

Immediately after the 1984 general elections the 2 Wrensford brothers at Middle Island were thrown out of their jobs. The reason was clearly political.

No corresponding PAM people in that area benefitted from those jobs.

Labour will break the cycle and end victimisation because

- everyone is entitled to a livelihood in his own land;
- the country needs the combined resources of all the people to move it forward.

The progress of the country cannot be built on the effort of 50 percent of the people.

We cannot afford the luxury alluded to by Dr. Somersall. When Labour is in office the PAM people go to sleep and when PAM is in, the Labour people become inactive.

We need UNITY of EFFORT to succeed.

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CSO: 3298/217

ARREST OF LABOR PARTY LEADER MOORE DRAWS REACTION

Political Motivation Seen

Basseterre THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN in English 4 Apr 87 p 2

[Editorial: "Cry Shame on Dr Simmonds"]

[Text]

Dr. Kennedy Simmonds and his evil gang have taken themselves further along the road of repression and they have shown one more time that they do not care for St. Kitts or the people of St. Kitts.

If they cared they would not have taken the foolish step of arresting Lee Moore, the Leader of the Labour Party and President of the St. Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union.

Few people even within the top leadership of PAM thought it a wise move to arrest Comrade Moore.

It is not that Comrade Moore is immune from arrest. It is a matter that if he is going to be arrested it should be for some real cause.

To have arrested Comrade Moore for exposing the partiality of the system in dealing with dangerous drugs is stupid in the extreme.

Most people in St. Kitts know that the government have been meaning to arrest Comrade Moore for the last 7 years. To have arrested him on the pretext on which he was arrested is to admit that there is really no stronger cause for his arrest.

It is clearly a vindication of Comrade Moore's integrity if after 7 years, you can arrest him

only for some words which the government does not like. The confession that after 7 years you can find in him no fault worthy of arresting him, but for words the government does not like, is to the credit of Comrade Moore and the discredit of the government.

While some people affect to be surprised by the government's action in arresting Comrade Moore, the government was acting true to form.

They arrested Comrade Bryant already for words he allegedly spoke. And they arrested Comrade O'Flaherty already for words he supposed to have spoken.

The government prosecuted several persons who took part in a protest outside the Assembly during the debate on the disastrous White Paper.

The government procured the arrest and imprisonment of a young woman in St. Pauls procuring false witnesses to testify against her that she had thrown stones during a protest in St. Pauls against the said White Paper.

Some people make the point that although they understand the government's onslaught against the Labour Party they thought they would have been slow to touch the leader.

But those people misunderstand two basic points:

1. They forget the level of desperation being experienced by the government.
2. The government was working on the theory that if you smite the shepherd, the sheep will scatter.

So the government arrested Comrade Moore not for stealing; not for corruption, not for possession of illegal weapons or drugs.

The government arrested him because he spoke about cocaine. In other words, the only problem about cocaine is talking about it.

The government had to impress some of its outside friends so it passed a Drug Law with some very draconian penalties.

But the government is not seeking to deal with the big drug dealers. They want to deal with the rest of the young people for ganja but coke is O.K. And they have to deal with those not who import cocaine but who talk about cocaine.

Arresting Comrade Moore strengthened him and weakened the government. The government did not seek to calculate the response properly. The arrest proved in what respect Comrade Moore is held among many people in the community.

The arrest showed up the government's weakness. They

cannot solve the problems of the country. They really do not know what to do.

The government want to silence people and make them afraid.

The people of the country must stand together. They must be courageous. They must be strong.

The government is also trying to provoke a State of Emergency. We are calling on our people to frustrate their intentions.

The government is preparing to steal the elections. The government sees power dropping from their hands and they are reluctant to let go.

Arresting Lee Moore does not solve our problem. But it creates some of its own.

All honest decent right thinking citizens should cry shame on Dr. Simmonds.

Solidarity Rally

Basseterre THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN in English 8 Apr 87 p 1

[Text]

Despite all the scare tactics and devious devices used by the Simmonds government to keep people off the streets, last Saturday's SOLIDARITY March and Rally was a resounding success by all standards.

More than 2,000 Kittitians on Saturday defied the scorching sun and military might of the government to express solidarity with Labour's Leader Cde. Lee Moore who was twice on Wednesday last, April 1, arrested by the Simmonds regime on charges of sedition.

The procession started shortly after two o'clock at Greenlands Park, Basseterre and

continued through Flamboyant Drive and Orchard Street in Greenlands and then unto Cayon Street.

The marchers proceeded east along Cayon Street and into West Independence Square Street where it climaxed with a public rally at which Cde. Moore and other leaders of the Party addressed the large crowd on hand.

The route of the march was significantly altered and shortened by the Commissioner of Police.

The Party in its application to him to hold the march had asked that the procession turn into Church Street, Liverpool Row and Fort Street. These streets were excluded from the route by the Commissioner, who gave no explanations for his action.

As a result of the shortening of the route the march lasted about 3/4 of an hour. But this could not prevent hordes of young Kittitians - many of them school children - carrying placards from participating in the march to demonstrate their disgust and disillusionment with the Simmonds regime. It was indeed a dignified and peaceful procession.

Some of the placards they carried read as follows:

"Hands off Our Leader", "You Can Fool Us No More", "Simmonds You Are Asleep Too Long. Wake Up: Get Out", "Lee Is a Good Man", "The Voice of The People Must Not Be Silenced", "Simmonds Your Days Are Numbered. Resign Now!", "Seven Years of Darkness", "Simmonds Must Go.", "Caught With Cocaine, Set Free", "INQUIRY Simmonds, INQUIRY", and "Simmonds Set The People of This Land Free".

The full slate of speakers at the public rally were the Party's Chairman Comrade Charles Mills, Comrade Fitzroy Bryant, the Deputy Leader Cde. Dr. Henry Browne, Cde. St. John Payne and the Party Leader Cde. Lee Moore.

The rally lasted just over one hour (See pages 4 and 5 for photos on march and rally).

Addressing the rally Comrade Moore said he loved Dr. Simmonds for what he had done to him.

On the evening of April 1st following his arrest he had read the love chapter in his Bible, 1 Cor. 13.

He said he had no fear but he could understand why the government was afraid.

Throughout the demonstration and rally the government had seen to it that scores of armed policemen were posted and interspersed along the route. The intention was to terrorize and intimidate would-be demonstrators.

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REPORT ON MOORE'S ADDRESS TO PARTY'S ANNUAL MEETING

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 13 May 87 p 4

[Text]

BASSETTERRE, May 12, CANA

Leader of the opposition St Kitts-Nevis Labour Party Lee Moore is denying what he said are rumours of a rift in the party's hierarchy.

"Labour has no leadership problem" he told last weekend's annual general meeting of the party.

As if to confirm the party leader's view, the delegates returned officers in key positions, including Moore, unopposed.

"This party chooses its leader through democratic elections, conducted on the floor of convention. There is no mystique about it. No one has and no one claims any divine right to be leader of the party," Moore said.

He said that the government and supporters of the ruling Peoples Action Movement are resentful of the leadership of the Labour Party.

"They have a problem with the loyalty we can evoke among the rank and file", Moore said.

In his hour long address he said the party had embarked upon a new thrust to oil its machinery and prepare for general elections, which it anticipated would be called soon.

"While our fortunes have been increasing, those of the government have been correspondingly decreasing," Moore said, adding that the party has been receiving more at-

tention from the regional media.

He said in St Kitts that the Peoples Action Movement (PAM) faction of the Government has been constantly attacked, while in Nevis the co-ruling Nevis Reformation Party (NRP) has had to constantly fend off criticism from a new group calling itself, the concerned citizens movement.

In one of several resolutions passed, Labour is calling for the resignation of two diplomats said by the party to have been named in newspaper reports damaging to the international standing of the country.

The diplomats named in the resolution are Terrence Byron, who is accredited to Taiwan and Dr. William Herbert, who recently resigned as Ambassador to the U.S, following his alleged involvement in an international money laundering deal, but maintained his accreditation to the United Nations, the Organisation of American States (OAS) and Japan.

Another resolution protested the "politicising" of the police force and asked for the resignation of the police commissioner.

On an international issue, the party criticised the British and American Governments for not applying meaningful sanctions on the South African government.

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